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Nationality Bill: The bogus charges, page 14

Decision to close Linwood despite £40m aid offer provokes widespread fury

Talbot UK's announcement yesterday that it was closing its Linwood car plant, with the loss of 4,800 jobs, provoked fury from MPs, unions, and the workers. The Government is understood to have offered the French owners up to £40m to keep Linwood open, and at Talbot's Midlands plants the decision was seen as spelling the end of their car-making in Britain.

4,800 jobs to go and 3,500 more at risk

By Clifford Webb

Talbot UK, the former Chrysler company acquired by the French Peugeot Citroën group two years ago, put an end to months of speculation yesterday by announcing plans to close its loss-making car plant at Linwood, near Glasgow, with the loss of all 4,800 jobs.

The news that production at Scotland's only car plant will cease in June brought an angry response from all sections of the community. Mr Bruce Millan, the shadow Secretary of State for Scotland, described it as "absolutely disastrous, the severest blow to the west of Scotland that we have had for many years".

But Linwood's demise was also greeted with dismay at Talbot's Midland plants where it was widely interpreted as signalling the end of car manufacturing in Britain by the company founded by the Rootes family.

"It is quite clear that we are being demoted to the role of a French offshore assembly operation. We shall be producing French cars and passing them off as British with a different badge" was how one angry Coventry executive put it last night.

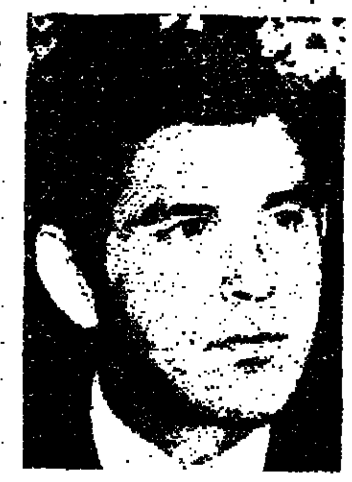
The Avenger and Sunbeam models produced at Linwood are the only British cars remaining in Talbot's range. The Alpine and Solara are assembled at Ryton near Coventry from kits of components shipped from Talbot's plant at Poissy, near Paris.

Linwood's closure also raises doubts about the future of the 3,500 employees at the Stoke engine and transmission plant a few miles from Ryton. It supplies those components to Linwood and also to Iran, where a version of the now discontinued Hunter is produced.

Since the Shah's overthrow what was the biggest single export contract in Britain, once worth £150m, a year, has been badly disrupted. Some shipments have resumed recently but only account for a fraction of the installed capacity at Stoke. The slump in Iranian business was the worst blow of all for Talbot UK.

Mr George Turnbull, the former managing director of British Leyland who now heads Talbot UK, said yesterday that it will now concentrate on its Midland plants, and introduce a new small car later in the year.

But reliable sources in the industry said last night that the car in question is the French-made Horizon which is already on sale in Britain and will now be assembled at Ryton. There is apparently no question of Peugeot sanctioning expenditure to duplicate tooling for British manufacture when it already has excess capacity at Poissy.



M Parayre: "Strong presence will remain."

Last night, after meetings with management, Stoke shop stewards said they had failed to get any guarantees about future employment of the 20 per cent of the labour force engaged on work for Linwood.

Mr Pat Fox, transport union convener at Ryton, said: "We hope that the decision to close Linwood is not the start of the winding up of Talbot in this country. I can only give it a guarded reception without being too optimistic."

He is pressing for an urgent meeting between union leaders and M Jean Paul Parayre, president of Peugeot, to obtain assurances about future plans in Britain.

M Parayre said in Paris yesterday: "Talbot is a vital part of this group, and will remain so in spite of present-day difficulties. It is our intention to maintain a strong manufacturing presence in the United Kingdom, allied to increasing sales of both Talbot and Peugeot products."

On Monday, he flew in a private aircraft to London for a one-hour meeting with Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry. It is understood that Sir Keith offered government assistance of up to £40m in a vain attempt to persuade him to put a new car into production at Linwood.

Peugeot sources said last night that M Parayre told Sir Keith that appalling losses at Linwood, the out-dated facilities and models produced there, together with the short term need to stem Peugeot's own losses, had left him with no room to manoeuvre. He had to act quickly to stop the haemorrhaging.

Peugeot's takeover of Chrysler's European operations two years ago was greeted with widespread optimism. It was the most solidly based motor group in Europe

In 1975, with the aid of a French government financial package it had merged with Citroën, and the difficulties acquired then were already taxing Peugeot's management team to the limit. Critics said Chrysler would only compound those difficulties.

Talbot UK lost £19m in the first half of 1980, Talbot France lost £39m and Citroën nearly £30m. Only Peugeot's original car division made profits. The latest forecasts suggest that the group lost between £180m and £200m in the year as a whole.

Denial on Nissan: Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, discounted suggestions that Nissan, the Japanese car makers, might use Linwood for their planned car plant in Britain. Michael Hornsby writes from Brussels). Every effort would be made to find another company to step in, he said after an EEC ministerial meeting in Brussels.

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Parliamentary report, page 9
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Emergency debate is refused as MPs denounce shutdown

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

The closure of the car assembly plant at Linwood in Scotland with the loss of 4,800 jobs, which was announced yesterday by Talbot UK, brought a shocked and angry response from all parts of the House of Commons.

Mr Alexander Fletcher, Under-Secretary of State, Scottish Office, replying in the absence of the Secretary of State who was attending the fishery talks in Brussels, told MPs that it was disastrous news for the West of Scotland.

Appealing for an emergency debate, which was refused, Mr Norman Buchan, Labour MP for Renfrew, West, said that he had been fighting for 16 years to preserve the factory. The decision would mean the death of the town and would raise the local unemployment figure to the unthinkable level of 20 per cent. He spoke of bitterness and anger in Linwood.

From the Labour front bench, Mr Bruce Millan, Opposition spokesman on Scotland, said that the closure was disastrous in an area already devastated by the effects of the Government's economic and industrial policies.

If the French parent company could break the pledges it had given regarding Linwood, pledges relating to Talbot's operation in Coventry could also be broken. The announcement might be the first step towards the complete withdrawal of Talbot from the United Kingdom.

He said that when Peugeot accepted obligations in 1978, they included specific pledges to keep Linwood and other British manufacturing plants open. If it had not been for those pledges, considerable sums of government money would not have been given to the company.

The Labour Party would not accept the closure.

But, for all the anxiety about the unemployment and the anger at the French decision to withdraw, Mr Fletcher could offer little immediate hope.

No offer of government funds, he said, would have attracted the company to make a new and substantial investment at Linwood for the simple reason that it was suffering from over-capacity.

Concentration of facilities was the only realistic course open to it.

Mr Fletcher added that, as well as the direct loss of 4,800 jobs at Linwood, there would be employment consequences for suppliers. He was considering urgently what measures could be taken to generate new employment in the area before the shutdown at the end of the year.



Mrs Cynthia Dwyer, the American freelance journalist deported from Iran after spending nine months in jail for spying, said in Zurich during a four-hour stopover on her way back to America that Miss Jean Waddell, one of the four Britons held in Iran, was "in very good spirits, very hopeful" when she left her. Mrs Dwyer and Miss Waddell shared a room.

Air control radar lost after power failure

By Arthur Reed
Air Correspondent

The London air traffic control area was without radar cover for 30 minutes on Tuesday evening after a power breakdown at the main control centre at West Drayton, near Heathrow airport.

Emergency electricity supplies were quickly switched in to give the controllers lighting and radio communication with the aircraft under their control. The Civil Aviation Authority said last night that air safety was not endangered.

The cause of the breakdown had not been established yesterday but sabotage had been ruled out. The West Drayton centre is manned half by civilians and half by the Royal Air Force.

The authority said: "We view this as a serious occurrence and are carrying out an internal inquiry to make sure it will never happen again.

"This is certainly the first time that such a breakdown has occurred."

During the period of the radar blackout all take-offs from Heathrow were held up and airliners approaching the London area were asked over the radio telephone system to circle in holding patterns.

French air traffic controllers were asked to reduce the number of airliners passing through their airspace on their way to Britain, and some take-offs from airports in Europe were delayed.

The authority added: "Radar is a vital tool, but it is possible to function safely without it using radio communications, although not at the same level of activity".

Arson suspected after eight die in second Las Vegas hotel blaze

From Michael Leapman
New York, Feb 11

Eight people died and 242 were injured in a spectacular fire that raced through several floors of the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel last night. It was the second disastrous fire in a skyscraper hotel within three months in Nevada's largest city, the gambling capital of America.

Police said they suspected arson. There appeared to have been four separate fires—the the first of them starting in the evening, just before Andy Williams, the singer, was due to give his opening performance.

One of the victims was killed jumping out of a high window. The rest died from smoke inhalation before they could be rescued from the blaze.

"There were flames shooting up the side of the hotel. It looked like the towering inferno", said one of the survivors, referring to a film in which a high-rise hotel catches fire.

The November fire at the MGM Grand Hotel near by, in which 84 people lost their lives, has often been compared to the fictional fire in the film.

Questions about the safety of skyscraper hotels have been raised since last November's fire and are bound to be asked again as a result of this one. Firemen's ladders cannot reach beyond the eighth floor, where last night's fire began. If guests on floors above the fire are prevented from going down the emergency stairs, they cannot be rescued except by helicopter from the roof.

Some guests did escape by that method, others broke windows and shouted for help to the 450 firemen who fought the flames.

A guest from Chicago who was attending a convention at the hotel said: "When we got to the roof we saw flames coming up the elevator shaft through the building, so we ran over to the other side of the roof. When we saw flames there, we started to get nervous."

A Florida guest said: "We thought of the MGM fire and ... it scared us half to death." The hotel was evacuated and guests were given emergency beds in the city convention centre.

Unlike the MGM hotel, the Hilton had fire alarms and sprinklers on all floors.

Mr Barron Hilton, chairman of the Hilton Corporation, said: "If the fire was deliberately set, then the resources of the Hilton Hotel Corporation would be committed to bring the person or people responsible for this tragedy to justice."

There could be several motives for setting fire to the hotel. Like most of the large Las Vegas hotels, the Hilton has a gambling casino downstairs, and a heavy loser might feel incensed enough to try to burn it down.

Our Medical Correspondent writes: Many of the deaths in any fire catastrophe are caused by suffocation or by poisoning from inhaled gases rather than by burns although the bodies commonly become extensively burned after death.

Almost always the smoke in a burning building contains carbon monoxide and victims often die from poisoning from this gas, the familiar lethal constituent of coalgas.

In several recent fires the smoke produced by burning plastic furnishings has proved especially dangerous. Burning plastic produces unusually dense clouds of smoke, which is also a chemical irritant and so can quickly incapacitate anyone breathing it. The irritants make breathing extremely difficult.

The smoke also causes irritation and watering of the eyes. It is the combination of impairment of vision and of breathing by chemical irritation that makes escape unusually difficult in fires with a large plastic element.

Photograph, page 8

Polish Army leader pledges tough line

From Dessa Trevisan
Warsaw, Feb 11

The Polish *Sejm* (Parliament) today entrusted General Wojciech Jaruzelski with the difficult task of heading the Government which has to restore order and trust in authority.

There were two abstentions, perhaps indicating a new mood in the hitherto placid voting procedure.

General Jaruzelski is to remain Minister of Defence, a post he has held continuously for more than 13 years serving under a succession of prime ministers and through three labour crises, thus becoming the symbol of continuity of the one and only institution which remained intact, the armed forces.

There has been no military coup; but the Government, which has so far lacked authority now has the army to back it up as well as to guarantee Poland's growing uneasy allies that the authorities intend to halt the escalation of political demands. It can now also guarantee that while it is ready to negotiate, it will not be pushed into making concessions.

The Poles have found a typical Polish solution by entrusting the Government into the hands of a career soldier who, furthermore, is a man who is opposed to the use of force and commands great respect from all strata of society. This was emphasized by Mr Stanislaw Kania, the Communist Party leader, in a brief address to Parliament recommending General Jaruzelski for the post.

He emphasized his moral qualities, his strength of character, his patriotism, the fact that throughout his career, he had been a teacher to new generations of Polish army officers, and that he had brought the army to its present high state of readiness.

He also said that, he would act toughly against anarchy and all forces which were acting against socialism, but that the task standing before the Government was to negotiate and carry out promised reforms.

Continued on page 7, col 1

Adjustment in tactics admitted by Mr Pym

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

In a bold, and deliberate, attempt to restore some commonsense to the Government's view of itself, Mr Francis Pym, Leader of the House, last night candidly admitted in a speech that the Government was adjusting both its tactics and timing to meet severe economic difficulty.

"Commonsense tells us that changed circumstances make adjustments necessary in both tactics and timing, to meet altered conditions. We will not be deterred from making this statement of the obvious by accusations of changing course. These adjustments in no way imply the abandonment of any of our main purposes nor any change in strategy", he said.

His speech, given to Putney Conservatives the day the Government announced the first of massive new funding measures to help British Steel, marks a deliberate counterpoint to Mrs Margaret Thatcher's out-and-out defiance to any suggestion of changing course. It also marks the Cabinet's public acknowledgement that all is not well.

Mr Pym, appointed in last month's reshuffle to have oversight over the way the Government puts its message across, will have discussed the new tack with the Prime Minister, and it undoubtedly represents at the very least a sober new look, although in Whitehall as usual it was professed there was nothing new.

"The simple truth is, that, in the light of the deterioration in the world and domestic economic framework, we could neither press ahead regardless with our planned schedule, nor avoid some much needed measures to deal with some of the distressing effects . . ." Mr Pym said.

Without apology or handwringing he drew attention to what he called the Government's concern with the immediate problems afflicting the country; increased assistance for the young unemployed; increased selective help to development areas and support for "some key firms, like British Leyland".

"It is no part of Conservative industrial policy to be the provider of unlimited handouts. But at the same time it is no part of our philosophy to fail to meet genuine need, as resources allow at a time of world recession. Conservatives support these actions.

"They are a pragmatic response to desperately difficult problems, a response not only designed to cushion the severest effects of recession but to assist the nation to grow again when the recession ends".

This concern that government must not infact disown or undermine what it is doing just to pretend that its monetarist loyalties are intact has been preoccupying several Cabinet Ministers for some time.

Their emphasis now is likely to be to seek more serious understanding of its policies, and not let the caricature that is often self propelled come to dominate the political scene. The policy thrust is also likely to be for greater help for industry, although Mr Pym did not spell this out last night.

Instead he asked where things had gone wrong, why the buoyant mood of Mrs Thatcher's victory had so swiftly evaporated.

Such self criticism might sound close to heresy. But Mr Pym, in a long speech, left nothing ambiguous. "The present critical state of public opinion and the depth of Britain's economic difficulties must give any Conservative pause for thought", he said.

Mr Pym went on: "If we are not to be deflected from our objectives and to lose confidence in our capacity to achieve them we must examine and learn from the experience of the past two years".

Even though the Conservatives had not at the 1979 election promised fast and easy answers, Mr Pym acknowledged that the Government "had not expected so unfavourable a climate" in the economy.

Not only were the conditions not forthcoming in which they had assumed they might implement their strategy, they had "sharply worsened".

Ministers to drop sick pay scheme

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

Government proposals to make employers pay the first eight weeks of sickness benefit are to be dropped from the legislative timetable after a series of ministerial meetings in the last few days.

Although a final decision has to be taken by the Cabinet today on a postponement, it is fully expected that the new Social Security Bill will not include clauses on sickness benefit.

It was evident last night that there has been disagreement among ministers because the postponement means the Government will have to seek elsewhere for cuts in the Civil Service. The estimate was that on the transference of sickness benefit payments to employers some 5,000 jobs could be cut.

Ministers who argued against postponement were from the Treasury and the Civil Service Department. But the ministers responsible for social security, employment and industry, argued that the Government had to take account of criticisms from industrialists.

The Confederation of British Industry and the Engineering Employers Federation have argued that the measure is discriminatory because it would fall hardest on the engineering industry where the incidence of sickness is high.

Small businessmen, on the other hand, have complained that firms with few employees could not bear the cost.

Under the original proposals, employers would pay the first eight weeks of sickness benefit but the employers' national insurance contribution would be reduced. The compensatory concessions offered included proposals that employers would get reimbursement, the scale of being dependent on the length of time of an individual's sickness and his amount of service.

It was stressed last night that ministers still intended to bring in transfer of sickness pay in the next parliamentary session if the Cabinet agreed to a postponement.

£3,500 bill for every job lost

Every worker made redundant costs the Exchequer almost £3,500 a year in lost tax revenues, and social security and other benefits. The 900,000 rise in unemployment over the past year is estimated to have cost the Government £3,100m. The direct and indirect cost to the Government of every jobless person is, however, likely to be around £5,000 a year. The state's outlay on unemployment is equivalent to more than half the £4,000m overshoot on public sector borrowing Page 19

Herr Schmidt says he will stay at his post

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, affirmed on the eve of his Social Democratic Party's crisis meeting, that he intended to stay at his post. Herr Kühn, a former party deputy chairman, warned the party that if it could not stop the rot "its fall from power will be unavoidable" Page 6

'Times' meeting today

Leaders of printing trade unions have been called to a meeting by Mr Rupert Murdoch's News International company today amid hopes that it is near to agreements required for the purchase of *The Times*, *The Sunday Times* and the three supplements. Mr Murdoch has given assurances on editorial independence of the supplements to a Commons committee Page 2

Mrs Williams criticized

Mrs Shirley Williams will regret her decision to leave the Labour Party, Mr Ronald Hayward, its general secretary, said. She should have stayed inside the party and fought for democratic socialism, he added Page 2

London to lose 4,000 acute hospital beds

London is to lose more than 4,000, or almost one in seven, of its acute medical and surgical beds in the next seven years, in return for more geriatric, mental illness and mental handicap beds, and improved community services. Some small, local hospitals will be closed Page 4

Diplomatic leak inquiry

Investigations are underway in Canada to find out how a message sent by the High Commissioner in London to the External Affairs Department in Ottawa came into the hands of a television network. The message expressed fears that diplomatic telephone conversations were being tapped Page 7

BR power drive urged

The chairman of British Rail called on the Government to approve a programme to electrify more main lines after a study group reported that that would reduce oil usage and help manufacturers win more export orders. The investment programme for the railways could cost between £250m and £720m Page 3

Closed shop dismissal

Miss Joanna Harris, aged 20, the poultry inspector who refused to join a union, has been dismissed by Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, West Midlands, which operates a closed shop policy. The council's personnel officer said that the names of a number of other non-union employees had been notified Page 3

Airline strike vote: British Airways ground staff to stage one-day stoppages that will halt operations at Heathrow 2

Uganda: Troops have arrested a leading politician and businessman in the wake of the attacks on police stations this week 8

Printing union chiefs called to meeting today on 'Times' bid

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

News International's management has called printing trade union leaders to a meeting today amid hopes that the company is close to agreements required before the five Times Newspapers titles will be sold to it.

Mr Rupert Murdoch intends today to review the results of the past three weeks of negotiations. The union leaders have been told to be available for a meeting at 11 am.

Most union leaders expressed optimism last night that agreement could be reached, and further progress was made in negotiations with individual chapels yesterday. However several unresolved issues remain.

Last night the National Graphical Association (NGA) machine minders' representatives are understood to have given provisional agreement to the reduction by one press to three for nightly production of *The Times*. The NGA representatives also proposed a joint examination of machine room staffing arrangements at *The Sunday Times*.

Representatives of clerical workers belonging to the National Society of Operative Printers Graphical and Media Personnel (Natsopa) on both newspapers also reached provisional agreement on the basis of a reduction of about 130 posts, although the actual job loss would be closer to 10 because of the number of unfilled vacancies.

However, by last night, Natsopa machine room representatives had still not agreed to the use of only three presses on *The Times*.

Mr Edward O'Brien, national officer of the union, said last night: "We have told the company we do not believe they can satisfactorily produce the paper on three presses and we do not want to be blamed for shortfalls of copies." Mr O'Brien added, however, that he would be willing to countenance some staff reductions.

Another stumbling block involves Mr Murdoch's proposal to transfer printing of the three supplements to alternative plants. Natsopa machine chapel representatives have offered to produce the supplements on one fewer press than at present, with a consequent loss of 15 jobs, provided the supplements are kept at Grays Inn Road.

Mr O'Brien said he nevertheless remained very optimistic of an agreement being reached with Mr Murdoch. "If you asked me I would say it is Murdoch five to one on."

Mr Leslie Dixon, president of the NGA, said last night: "We have had some tough negotiations. I believe we have come to a conclusion which is ultimately fair. I hope Mr Murdoch will reach the right decision decision today."

Natsopa leaders were also hoping for an agreement for *The Sunday Times* machine chapel where, it is believed, the Murdoch team had reduced its request for staff reductions from about 100 to about 40.

Meanwhile letters of understanding for signature by union representatives were being drawn up in the hope that final agreement can be reached today. In that case general secretaries will sign the general agreement and another covering disputes which they initialled on Monday night.

A meeting attended by several hundred of the 2,000 members of Natsopa at The Times last night pressed for an extension of today's deadline for agreements to allow differences to be resolved.

"New mood": Mr William Rees-Mogg, the editor of *The Times*, told the Foreign Press Association in London yesterday that he believed the Murdoch bid would probably succeed (the Press Association reports).

He said he would be leaving as editor "inside a very short number of weeks" if the plan was successful.

Murdoch assurances over supplements

By Diana Geddes

Mr Rupert Murdoch yesterday gave a commons select committee assurances on the editorial independence of the three *Times* supplements, but made it clear that additional safeguards agreed for the two newspapers through the independent national directors would not apply to the supplements.

He also rejected the idea of including a journalist from the supplements on the board of the Times Newspapers holding company. He had thought it would be a good idea to appoint to the board journalists "of my choice" from *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, but he did not want to increase the board's numbers further.

Mr Murdoch spent more than an hour answering questions put by the Commons Select Committee on Education, Science and the Arts. Any breach of undertakings given to the committee would constitute a contempt of Parliament and could be punishable by imprisonment. The committee plans to publish a report of its proceedings next week.

Mr Christopher Price, Labour MP for Lewisham, West, the committee's chairman, explained that in view of the statutory guarantees given to the Government in respect of *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*, the committee was anxious "to canvass what guarantees might be available for the three supplements".

Mr Murdoch said he would be happy to answer any questions but emphasized that "the whole exercise is completely hypothetical. "My company has not bought Times Newspapers yet, and it may well not do so."

It depended entirely on negotiations and until they were completed "there is no certainty at all". The deadline set by Thomson British Holdings, the present owner, is midnight tonight.

Mr Murdoch added: "There seems to be a bit of a misunderstanding. People think they are doing me a favour in allowing me to take on something that is losing £13m a year." He was not buying *The Times* in order to support some kind of cultural charity.

"It is most important that everyone on *The Times* realizes that however important it is as a national newspaper, it is also a business", he said. There was no greater guarantee of a newspaper's freedom and independence than its viability.

It was his firm intention to move the Printing of the three supplements out of Fleet Street. Confidential negotiations on that were still going with the unions involved.

The unions were naturally anxious to retain the maximum number of jobs, but he was interested in making the newspapers viable.

There had to be a compromise or 4,000 jobs would be lost. He intended to keep the supplements' editorial staffs in London, but not necessarily in the same building as the two newspapers.

He was not prepared to give any long-term guarantees on the future of Times Newspapers; he thought one of Lord Thomson of Fleet's greatest mistakes was to guarantee to continue publishing the newspapers for 21 years. However, if the papers were viable, he thought he would maintain them "for ever".

The supplements lost £1.4m last year, he said, adding: "It is going to take us some years to turn them round fully, and many years to do it for *The Times*". He was prepared to give them a good period in which to recover.

He had "no intention at all of closing anything down". He had no plans for the supplements other than to let them continue. "I think they are first-class. I have neither the intention nor the time to interfere." He did not intend to bring their editorial content "down market".

Mr Murdoch rejected as completely untrue reported comments by some MPs that any assurances given by him were "not worth the paper they were printed on".

Parent company's difficulties and impossibility of making doomed car plant viable 'made shutdown inevitable'

Linwood closure decision seen as a disaster for the West of Scotland

From Ronald Faux
Glasgow

There was little surprise in Linwood yesterday that the Talbot UK car plant was to close with the loss of 4,800 jobs; only awful confirmation of what the workers had feared for almost a year.

Redundancies which halved the workforce over the past decade, short-time working, and a clear slump in the car market had been the signs that led to yesterday's decision. Added to that, the factory produced the Avenger and Sunbeam models, neither of which were likely to storm the top of the market even if times had been good.

The workers, whose performance had been unflatteringly compared with that of the workers in the continental factories, complained that much of their equipment was outdated and inefficient.

When the heavy losses of the parent company, Peugeot-SA, were disclosed, any hopes of introducing a new model at Linwood and reprieving the plant finally evaporated.

Local councillors spoke gloomily yesterday about the future for the area. The West of Scotland has been badly affected by contraction of the traditional heavy industries. Rationalization has been stalking heavy engineering and steelworks in the area for years and Linwood's death could mean that eventually one male worker in four will have no job.

British Steel supplies much of the steel used by Linwood from the Gartcosh strip mill. The corporation has been trying hard in recent months to win new customers and last year began supplying steel for the mini Metro and to Peugeot in France.

Between 5 and 10 per cent of the Gartcosh output is used by Linwood, but on a recent visit Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman of British Steel, said that if the Linwood plant was forced to close the Scottish steel industry would feel the effect.

Mr Jake Stewart, chairman of the strip products group of British Steel, said the closure of Linwood was a serious blow to the corporation. British Steel had made determined efforts to find other markets for Scottish strip steel and some success had been achieved.

The final effect of the closure on the Scottish works would depend on how successful the present strategy proved in reducing costs and finding other outlets.

In Linwood, the closure was being looked on in the blackest terms. "A very bad day", one shopkeeper said, although he did feel the town had been half prepared for the closure.

Redundancy bill £20m, Talbot chief says

From a Staff Reporter
Glasgow

It would be impossible to turn the Linwood car plant into a viable operation, Mr George Turnbull, chairman of Talbot UK, said yesterday at a press conference in Glasgow.

"It can never be viable and it is impossible to achieve the necessary through-put," he said. "To be frank, we had to tell the Government that no matter how generous they were, we could not make it viable."

Mr Turnbull made it plain that the company had no intention of reversing its decision to close the plant. He had recommended the closure, he said, although it had been a painful decision.

"We are a volume business and unless there is sufficient volume going through the plant and sufficient return, we cannot make it pay", he said.

"The domestic market has fallen and export possibilities were negligible because of the strength of sterling. Linwood had always had an export volume but this was no longer available."

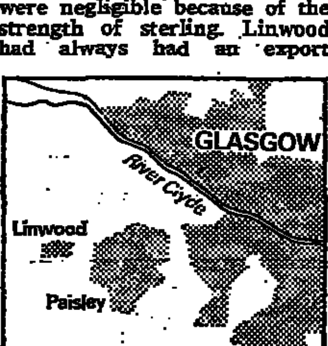
Mr Turnbull said the factors which had led to closure were the overheads at Linwood, the models being produced there and the transport costs involved in having the plant in Scotland.

"Circumstances are such that this is the only sensible thing we can do," he said.

Half the £41m loss made by the company in 1979 could be attributed to the Linwood plant but Mr Turnbull repeatedly insisted that there was no criticism of the work force there.

"I think we can understand the reaction of people at Linwood. There must be keen disappointment, to put it mildly, but to be frank, any militant action would be very counter productive. In no way could it influence the decision. We have done everything we could possibly do to save the plant and we are as distressed as anybody to make this announcement."

He said the company's plans had been firm and successful until the end of the first quarter of 1980 when the British market began to shrink rapidly and put a completely new complexion on the company's affairs.



Mr Turnbull said that in his talks with Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Industry, the outstanding loan of £28m from the Government which was guaranteed by Peugeot SA had not been mentioned. The company had repaid a secured loan of £22m.

The company estimated that the redundancy bill at Linwood would be about £20m.



Mr George Turnbull, the chairman of Talbot UK, at the Linwood press conference in Glasgow yesterday.

Scots TUC pledges backing for plant's shop stewards in fight for jobs

By Staff Reporters

Mr James Milne, general secretary of the Scottish TUC, said yesterday that the closure of the Talbot plant at Liverpool would have a disastrous effect on the West of Scotland. He said male unemployment was 13.9 per cent with 5,000 added to the unemployment queues that could become 25 per cent.

The impact would also be felt among companies serving Linwood and its workers. The Scottish TUC would support the shop stewards at the plant in any action they decided to take to oppose the closure.

"We have to do everything we possibly can to get this decision reversed," he said. "Peugeot-Citroën must be forced to change their mind." If that campaign was unsuccessful the Government must do everything in its power to persuade another company to take over the plant or to bring new jobs into the Linwood area.

"We expect our Government to do what the French Government would have done if the boot had been on the other foot, and we had announced a closure of a British factory in France. There is some very tough action that could be taken."

Mr Milne said the Scottish TUC was not seeking to gain advantages at another area's expenses. It simply wanted to safeguard the Linwood jobs.

Scottish representatives of the Transport and General Workers' Union and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (AUEW) pledged support for the Linwood workers.

But Mr Hugh Wyper, Scottish secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, admitted that tough action would have been easier if Peugeot-Citroën had decided to withdraw completely from the United Kingdom. Any action against the company would have to take account of the wider implications of jobs in England.

National union leaders will back campaigns by the Linwood shop stewards and the Scottish TUC to reverse the closure decision, although they appeared last night to have a slim hope of success.

Mr Gavin Laird, Scottish executive member of the AUEW, said before attending a meeting with Talbot's management with other national union officers that he was appalled at a "shattering blow" to the region.

Although union officials last night's meeting strongly attacked management both for the closure decision and the manner of its announcement, they are likely to hold consultations with local shop stewards before deciding whether concrete steps, if any, can be taken.

Mr Laird, saying that the plant's closure would mean an unemployment rate of close to 40 per cent in the district, added: "This will leave the economy of the West of Scotland on the point of collapse. It is not just the plant itself but the spin-off effect on smaller business which have grown up in support of the plant that we are concerned about."

Mr Laird said the possibility of a ban on Peugeot-Citroën imports into this country and even occupation of the plant were options that would not be ruled out in discussions.

In any case he hoped that a big campaign, the basis for which had been laid by the continued uncertainty over the plant's future coupled with short time working for many months, would be launched partly through the medium of the Scottish TUC.

In Brussels, Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, said that he was extremely disappointed and very sad at the news.

Speaking to journalists in Brussels, where he was attending a meeting of EEC agriculture and fisheries ministers, Mr Younger disclosed that he would be calling an urgent meeting of the Confederation of British Industries, the Scottish TUC, the Scottish Development Agency and the Scottish Economic Planning Department to see what could be done to replace the 4,800 jobs that would be lost.

Parliamentary report, page
Leading article, page
Business feature, page

Peugeot steadily losing sales to its main competitors

By Peter Waymark
Motoring Correspondent

The decision to close Linwood must be seen against the background of Peugeot's growing difficulties in France, where it has been losing sales steadily both to its main rival, the state-owned Renault, and to imported cars.

In 1979, Peugeot, Citroën and Talbot together held just over 43 per cent of the new car market in France, compared with Renault's 35 per cent. Last year the positions were almost reversed, with the Peugeot group managing less than 37 per cent and Renault climbing to 40.5 per cent.

This year has seen a further slump. In a total market 12 per cent down on January 1980, Peugeot and Citroën sales both fell by a quarter. Imports during the same month rose from 20 per cent to nearly 28 per cent compared with a year ago, with keenly priced German cars making the running.

Falling sales, abroad as well as in France, have led to a dramatic cut back in production. Sales in 1980, with 1979 sales in brackets, were: Citroën, 536,366 (679,327); Peugeot, 607,033 (754,448); Talbot, 302,843 (381,289). The figures relate only to cars produced in France.

Peugeot's decline in France has partly been caused by the growing popularity of the Renault 5 model against its Peugeot 104 and Citroën Visa. Renault 5 sales increased during 1980 by 42 per cent.

There is the feeling in France that Peugeot, by acquiring first Citroën and then the European Chrysler subsidiaries, has taken on more than it can manage and that drastic rationalization will be essential if the group is to survive.

Peugeot has tried to streamline its selling operation by merging the Peugeot and Talbot dealer networks

Mrs Williams 'will regret decision'

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

Mrs Shirley Williams was told yesterday by Mr Ronald Hayward, the Labour Party's general secretary, that her decision to leave the party's national executive committee was "ill advised and one which you will regret".

Mr Hayward taunted Mrs Williams over her comments on the trade union block vote. "It is the self-same block vote which elected you as a member of the national executive committee for the past 10 years", he said in a letter to Mrs Williams.

"Your 34 years membership of our party has given you the opportunity to serve the party and the country in high ministerial office and I regret that the way in which you have resigned from the NEC, with full aid from the media, can only have been designed to give maximum aid and comfort to our political opponents."

Mr Hayward said he fully supported Mrs Williams's previous public utterances where she had always maintained that party members who disagreed with party policy should stay inside the party and work for their particular point of view. "Those of us with a lifetime membership of the Labour Party intend to continue to struggle for democratic socialism", Mr Hayward said.

Mr Alex Kitson, the party chairman, wrote to Mrs Williams: "I find some of your remarks personally offensive. You and I have often disagreed on political issues but to infer, as I think you do, that I and others do not care about the future and the fate of the party is not only wrong but insulting. I shall continue to fight for democratic socialism within the party and as part of that for parliamentary democracy."

Mr Wedgwood Benn, speaking at Godalming, Surrey, last night, said that those supporting a new centre party were putting up a smokescreen by explaining that the emergence of the new group was all caused by a change in the Labour Party.

It had not changed, he insisted, what had changed was opinion in Britain about the European Economic Community.

Mr Neville Sandelson, a supporter of the Council for Social Democracy, told a meeting in his Hillingdon, Hayes and Harlington constituency: "It saddens me that the Hayes Labour Party has become a by-word nationally for all that is rotten and corrupt in political organization".

He indicated that he would stand as a social democratic candidate at the next election.

Mr Horam's decision: Mr John Horam, Labour MP for Gateshead, West, told his constituency party last night that he would not be available for reselection at the next General Election (the Press Association reports).

Mr Horam who has expressed his support for the Council for Social Democracy, made his announcement at the constituency's annual meeting

"Tightly knit" group: Right-wing unions planning to overturn the Wembley Labour Party conference decision giving the unions the biggest say in choosing future party leaders have agreed to form a tightly-knit political grouping (Our Labour Editor writes).

Diary, page 14
Letters, page 15

16,000 Ford workers face new lay-off as lorry drivers defy their union

Lorry drivers at the Ford plant at Dagenham, east London, yesterday defied union orders to go back to work.

Mr Ronald Todd, national organizer of the Transport and General Workers' Union, told the drivers that the union did not recognize pickets at the plant, but the men voted to stay out.

The pickets were set up by drivers employed by Silcock and Colling, one of Ford's main delivery agents.

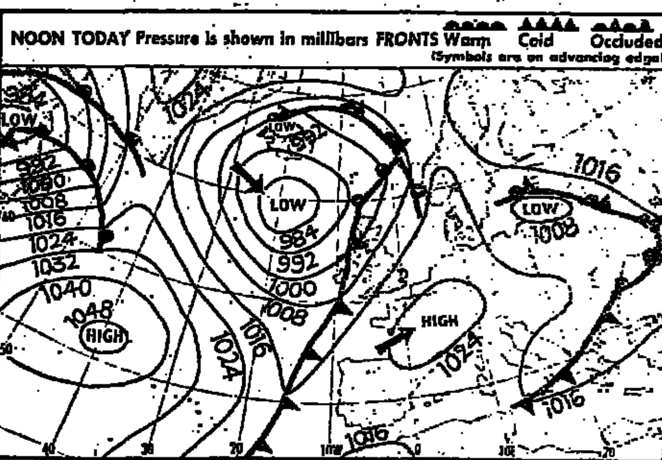
The 16,000 Ford workers laid off during the previous dispute, who returned to work on Tuesday, face the prospect of being sent home again, probably today.

Ford announced later that 800 workers in smaller plants at Dagenham, 1,400 at Langley and 300 at Aveley have been laid off.

Talks are still going on between Silcock and Colling and union officials.

The Silcock men had refused to cross the Ford drivers' picket lines during their dispute about using outside contractors for haulage journeys to the Continent. Now the Silcock men want their lost pay made up and the reinstatement of colleagues, who have been dismissed.

Weather forecast and recordings



b—blue sky; bc—half clouded; [illegible] cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; [illegible] period of rain with snow. [illegible]

Today

Sun rises: 7.20 am | Sun sets: 5.10 pm
Moon sets: 1.34 am | Moon rises: 11.16 am

Full moon: February 18.

Lighting up: 5.40 pm to 6.49 am

High water: London Bridge 6.55 am, 6.5m; 7.42 pm, 6.3m. Avonmouth 12.32 pm, 10.9m. Dover 4.10 am, 6m; 4.48 pm, 5.7m. Hull 11.49 am, 6.4m. Liverpool 4.29 am, 8m; 4.59 pm, 8.1m.

1ft = 0.3048m 1m = 3.2808ft

Pressure will be low to the W of Scotland while a trough of low pressure will move slowly SE over NW areas.

Forecasts for 6 am to midnight:

London, SE, Central S, E England, East Anglia, E Midlands, Channel Islands: Mostly dry, rather cloudy, some bright intervals; wind S moderate or fresh; max temp 5° to 7°C (41° to 45°F).

W Midlands, SW, central N, NE England: Rather cloudy, some bright intervals perhaps rain later; wind S moderate or fresh; max temp 7° to 9°C (45° to 48°F).

Wales, N, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland: Cloudy, rain or drizzle at time; perhaps heavy later, hill fog; wind S fresh or strong; max temp 7° to 9°C (45° to 48°F).

Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Glasgow: Rather cloudy, rain at times, a few bright intervals; wind S fresh or strong; max temp 6° to 8°C (43° to 46°F).

Central Highlands, Argyll, NW Scotland, N Ireland: Cloudy, rain perhaps heavy, becoming showery with bright or clear intervals; wind S strong or gale: max temp 6° to 8°C (43° to 46°F).

Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetlands: Showers and bright intervals, rain spreading N; wind S or SE, strong or gale; max temp 5° to 7°C (41° to 45°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Rather cold, sunny intervals and showers in the N and W, mostly dry in the SE.

Sea passages: S North Sea, Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): wind SW moderate to fresh, backing S fresh to strong; sea moderate becoming rough.

St George's Channel, Irish Sea: wind SW backing S, strong to gale, perhaps locally severe gale; very rough.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 8.2°C (46°F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 0.3°C (32°F). Humidity, 6 pm, 55 per cent. Rain, 24hr to 6 pm, nil. Sun, 24hr to 6 pm, 7.5hr. Bar, mean sea level, 6 pm, 1,024 millibars, falling.
1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun; sn, snow.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	s	16	61	Dublin	c	4	39	Locarno	s	11	52	Nice	r	9	48
Algiers	r	15	59	Edinburgh	c	3	37	London	s	6	43	Oslo	s	-2	28
Amstrdm	f	3	37	Florence	r	8	46	Luxmbrg	f	1	34	Paris	f	4	39
Athens	s	15	59	Funchal	c	13	55	Miami	f	28	82	Rome	r	13	55
Barcelona	c	10	50	Geneva	s	4	39	Madrid	c	5	41	S Francisco	c	14	57
Belfast	c	3	36	Gibraltar	s	15	59	Majorca	c	11	52	Stockholm	c	0	32
Biarritz	s	8	46	Guernsey	f	6	43	Malaga	s	15	59	Tel Aviv	f	15	59
Birmnghm	s	4	39	Helsinki	sn	-5	23	Malta	s	16	61	Toronto	c	-3	27
Bristol	s	5	41	Innsbruck	f	5	41	Manchstr	c	2	36	Vancouver	c	-3	27
Brussels	f	3	37	Istanbul	f	12	54	Montreal	r	9	48	Venice	r	6	43
Cardiff	f	6	43	Jersey	s	6	43	Moscow	c	-4	25	Vienna	f	6	43
Cologne	c	2	36	L Palmas	f	17	63	Naples	c	12	54	Zurich	f	3	37
Copenhgn	f	0	32	Lisbon	s	9	48	New York	r	12	54				

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Coal board seeks local support for pit closures

By Our Labour Editor

The National Coal Board is moving swiftly in an effort to secure local consent from the miners on its plans to close many pits and reduce the industry's labour force by up to 30,000 over the next two years.

Meetings have been called with area leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers fro mtomorrow to discuss which pits in their coalfields fail to meet new criteria for long-term viability. Between 20 and 50 pits could be closed under coal board plans

The NCB's strategy of moving negotiation of its crisis plan from national to local level will come under strong attack today when the NUM national executive meets in London to determine the miners' next step.

Left-wing coalfield leaders are seeking to mobilize rank-and-file unrest at a mass meeting being held after this morning's executive meeting.

Mr Michael McGahey, Communist president of the Scots pitmen will take the chair at the rally, and Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the Yorkshire miners, is to speak. His area has already voted more than four to one in favour of strike action against unacceptable pit closures.

BA faces lightning strikes over pay

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

British Airways faces a series of lightning one-day strikes by 20,000 maintenance and ground service staff from the end of next week which will close the airline's operations at Heathrow airport, London.

The men, who belong to seven unions, voted at a mass meeting yesterday for industrial action after rejecting the company's latest offer, which would involve a six-month pay freeze for most workers.

Ramp workers and ground services staff, who comprise about half the airline's manual workforce at Heathrow, have been told the company will honour an agreement on uprating index-linked shifts and London weighting payments due in July if the workers accept postponement of an 8 per cent pay offer.

The pay settlement was due on January 1, and was postponed until April 1 because of BA's financial crisis. A similar restructured offer was put to leaders of 9,000 engineering maintenance workers later yesterday.

The mass meeting in an airport hanger lasted about 20 minutes and was attended by about 10,000 workers who rejected the airline's offer by an overwhelming majority. They had claimed a cost of living increase.

Seven short-haul flights were cancelled because of the meeting and a few long distance flights were retimed. A one-day strike on January 23 closed all the airline's operations at Heathrow and caused disruption for several days.

Mr Gordon Clark, chairman of the joint shop stewards committee, said yesterday's vote was very encouraging. "But I still hope we might be able to come to an agreement in time to call it off", he said. "We have given them 10 days to come up with something."

Talks on terms for seamen's return to work

By Our Labour Staff

Shipping employers and National Union of Seamen leaders are expected to meet today to discuss terms for agreed arbitration which would bring an end to the five-week dispute in the industry.

Both sides agreed yesterday to the principle of arbitration, but today's talks at the offices of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) are to determine what should be the terms of reference and conditions of a return to work while the review proceeds.

The General Council of British Shipping said after a preliminary study of the union's list of conditions for a return to work that while it welcomed the union's acceptance of the principle of arbitration, it still had to agree acceptable terms.

The union told the employers it wanted an immediate interim payment of 12 per cent and for the arbitration to concern its claim for time-and-a-half overtime payments and double-time at weekends and holidays.

As conditions for a return to work, it was seeking beside a pledge of no victimization, reinstatement of those dismissed during the dispute and back pay for those suspended who had offered themselves for work.

Although there was optimism in the industry about an early settlement, the General Council was last night reluctant to comment in detail

Prison officers back call to suspend action

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Prison officers yesterday backed at a national delegate conference their national executive's call to suspend industrial action.

But Mr Colin Steel, chairman of the Prison Officers' Association, was pessimistic last night about the prospects of resolving the dispute in the way in which Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, has suggested.

Mr Whitelaw has refused to go to arbitration as officers want, but sees a solution in a new attendance system. The dispute is about a claim for payment for meal breaks.

Mr Steel said that members were not at all enthusiastic about Mr Whitelaw's solution. He and other association leaders are to continue negotiations with the Prison Department

The delegate conference yesterday was called in accordance with a timetable given in the High Court after it was ruled that the association's leadership acted unlawfully in instructing members to suspend industrial action without convening a special delegate conference.

هكذا من الأصل

HOME NEWS

Electrification of main rail lines would bring profits and export orders, report says

y Jacob Ecclestone

A big programme of electri-cation on Britain's main rail-ay lines would be profitable nd have several other import-nt advantages, according to a eport, published yesterday, of three-year study carried out ointly by British Rail and the Department of Transport.

It says that although electri-fication would not affect total nergy consumption it would educe the amount of oil used nd would also help manufac-urers to win more export rders.

Sir Peter Parker, chairman of ritish Rail, welcomed the eport and called on the Gov-rnment to approve a rolling rogramme to electrify more ain lines. He said the report shows that there is profitable gic which should make the se for more electrification resistible".

A more cautious response ame from Mr Norman Fowler, ecretary of State for Trans-ort, who was sent the report wo months ago. He said in a ritten parliamentary reply at he would have to "consider refully the prospects of the British Railways] Board's com-ercial businesses and how the nds to finance electrification ight be generated".

After examining various ations for main line electrifi-cation, Mr Michael Posher, a member of British Railways Board, and Mr John Palmer, an Under Secretary at the Department of Transport, the joint chairmen of the study group, say that all the larger programmes showed an internal rate of return of 11 per cent.

The most ambitious scheme (option 5) would mean that by the year 2000 more than half Britain's railways would be electrified and that 83 per cent of all passengers and 68 per cent of all freight would be electrically hauled. All the schemes examined would be profitable, though the quickest, in spite of being the most demanding in terms of investment, would give the best returns.

The report says: "If funds for railway financing were not constrained, the best course would be to choose now the largest and fastest programme".

On the question of when to begin an electrification programme, it is pointed out that much of British Rail's traction and rolling stock will have to be replaced in the next 10 to 15 years. If electrification is delayed new diesels would have to be bought and then possibly scraped before the end of their working life.

With an eye, perhaps, on government reluctance to commit itself to investment programmes ranging between £250m and £720m at 1978 prices, the report's authors advance arguments for going beyond what they call "a strategic decision in principle". They want a commitment to a specific programme.

The four main options examined were:

Base option 1: The existing network plus existing electrification schemes (London, St Pancras, to Bedford; Colchester to Norwich and Harwich; Bishop's Stortford to Cambridge and Royston to Cambridge; Edge Hill to Earlestown, Manchester to Euxton junction and Preston to Blackpool; Paisley to Ayr, Kilwinning to Largs and Springburn to Cumbernauld).

Option 2: Electrification from London northwards, including the east coast main line to Leeds and Newcastle; the Midland main line via Sheffield, Birmingham to York, Edinburgh to Glasgow and Edinburgh to Carstairs.

Option 3: A medium network encompassing all the main Inter-City routes. In addition to those in Option 2, those would include London to Bristol, South Wales and Plymouth; Birmingham to Taunton; Newcastle to Edinburgh, and Manchester to Leeds.

Option 5: The largest scheme, extending electrification from Plymouth to Penzance; Crewe to Holyhead; Edinburgh to Aberdeen and Doncaster to Hull. [Option 4 was not pursued after the interim report of 1979 was issued.]

The report says that decisions have to be made on when to start and how fast to work.

ELECTRIFIED MILAGE IN EACH OPTION (excluding sidings)

	Route miles	Per cent of present network	Per cent of passenger and freight milage electrically hauled P	F
Option I: Base	2,580	23	52	23
II: Modest	3,460	31	62	38
III: Medium	4,620	42	75	54
V: Large	5,750	52	83	68

Total BR network at 1.7.80 11,008

West German terror suspect flies home

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter

A West German wanted by the Bonn authorities for alleged terrorist activities in the early 1970s flew home last night after being arrested by detectives in London.



Michael Baumann: Left voluntarily, police say.

Michael Baumann, aged 34, is alleged to have been a member of the Movement Second June before fleeing into exile and renouncing any connexion with West German terrorist groups. Scotland Yard said that he had left London Airport voluntarily, accompanied by West German police officers.

But Mr Lawrence Grant, a solicitor approached by Herr Baumann's friends, said he intended to protest strongly to Scotland Yard. He said that he had sought access to Herr Baumann since 5.30 pm on Tuesday but that the police had not allowed him to see the arrested suspect.

Yesterday afternoon Mr Grant sent a letter to Scotland Yard calling for access and complaining that although the police had said that Herr Baumann had stated he wanted to go back to West Germany, his decision had been made without legal advice.

Mr Grant said that shortly after Herr Baumann left Britain he received a reply from Mr Colin Hewitt, the Deputy Assistant Commissioner in charge of the Special Branch, who said that the West German had signed a statement that he wished to go home. Mr Hewitt was sure that he knew the consequences of his decision, but would be told that Mr Grant was prepared to act for him.

Herr Baumann was arrested at a house in Hackney. He is known to have been in Britain for at least eight months and was just about to start a job as a carpenter.

More closed shop rebels face inquiry at Sandwell

From Arthur Osman
Birmingham

After the dismissal yesterday of Miss Joanna Harris, aged 20, by Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, West Midlands, because of her refusal to join a union, it was learnt that other employees had been named for investigation.

The National Council for Civil Liberties described her dismissal as unfair, and Mr Norris McWhirter, deputy chairman of the Freedom Association, said: "We fear that this witch-hunt will now extend to another 50 or more employees."

Mr Dennis Hodgetts, the council's personnel officer, agreed that there were a number of other employees in the education department whose names had been notified,

Miss Harris, a poultry inspector, had become the first to suffer under the Labour-controlled council's closed shop policy. She heard of her dismissal during a five-minute meeting with Mr Hodgetts and Mr Stanley Hogg, the environmental health director. Her notice will expire on March 11

She said: "I have been sacked because I refused to join the union. They altered my contract without asking me and my freedom of choice has been taken away."

Other council workers had "swallowed their pride to protect their families. To give in is sometimes harder than to fight on, and I still cannot believe that all this is happening under English law".

Mr Hodgetts agreed that she had been a good employee. If she joined a union before March 11 she would be reinstated.

Miss Patricia Hewitt, general secretary of the National Council for Civil Liberties, said: "On my reading of the law it is quite clearly an unfair dismissal as she was employed before the closed shop came into effect".

Universities divided on extra fee rises

y Diana Geddes
ducation Correspondent

Several universities are con-dering charging overseas udents next year fees ove the minimum levels commended by the Govern-ent. This year nearly all have arged the minimum fees and ve suffered a big loss of in-me as a result.

The Government has recom-ended that universities should arge overseas students next ar a minimum of £2,500 for ts courses, £3,600 for science, d £6,000 for the clinical year a medical, dental or terinary course. Those ures are 20 to 25 per cent ove this year's minimum els but overall still well low the average full cost a dent of £1,700.

Cambridge University is pro-ing to charge £2,900, £4,000, d £6,400 instead. Oxford is low suit.

The Committee of Vice-Chan-llors and Principals has just tten to all universities urging se that think they can maxi-e their income by charging ve the recommended mini-ms to do so.

Every university is anxiously king over its shoulder to see at other universities are nning to do. All are keen maximize their incomes if y they knew how. Cambridge taken the plunge and set example. But it could afford it lost no overseas students s year.

Brunel, on the other hand, ich charged above the recom-nded minimums this year and fered a drop of a half in its erseas intake, is planning to ck to the recommended mini-ms next year.

The London School of onomics is considering charg-£100 or £200 above the nimums, with generous ivers for those who began ir courses last autumn.

The School of Oriental and rican Studies, London, pects to put its fees up to out £3,000 for an arts course, increase of a half.

Imperial College, London, is oposing to continue to charge nimum fees for all courses e the one-year MSc for ich it is considering charg-£4,000. University College ndon is also proposing to ep the minimum fees.

Other London University leges are proposing to charge o 10 per cent above the re-mended minimums, provided t all colleges do so.

Cranfield Institute of Tech-logy, which slightly increased overseas student intake spite charging full-cost fees ging from £3,500 to £6,000, decided to keep full-cost s next year, ranging from 800 to £7,000.

City University is also con-ering charging above the nimums next year. But some er universities, including sex, intend to stick to the ommended figures.

Figures published by the vernment yesterday show t the number of first-year olments of overseas students universities, excluding EEC dents who are charged home dent fees, fell by 12 per cent undergraduates and 11 per t for postgraduates this year.

MP is determined to back telephone tap amendment

By Our Political Reporter

Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, failed yesterday to dissuade Mr John Gorst, Conservative MP for Barnet, Hendon North, from backing a Labour-sponsored clause which will impose legal constraints on telephone tapping.

The two met at Mr Whitelaw's request, but Mr Gorst, who is a member of the Commons committee considering the telecommunications Bill, told him that he intended to table an amendment at the Bill's report stage.

The new clause would require the Home Secretary to issue a warrant before telephone messages could be intercepted and would ban tapping for political reasons.

Mr Gorst wants to extend the scope of the clause in one particular but reduce it in another. The clause includes terrorist or espionage activity but Mr Gorst wants the word "subversive" included as was proposed in the White Paper on interference in communications published last year.

Actor's story: Stewart Granger signing copies of his autobiography, "Sparks Fly Upwards", in London yesterday.

Smaller Unionist parties form electoral pact

From David Nicholson-Lord
Belfast

The fragmentation of Unionist politics in Northern Ireland, certain to be an important factor in forthcoming local elections, was repaired somewhat yesterday with the announcement of a unity pact between two of the smaller Unionist parties.

Joint principles, including new proposals for a devolved Ulster government, have been agreed between the Unionist Party of Northern Ireland, founded by Lord Faulkner of Downpatrick, who died in 1977, and the Ulster Popular Unionist Party, set up by Mr James Kilfedder, MP for Down, North.

A pact is also likely in the council elections in May. Mrs Anne Dickson, leader of the UPNI, said it was hoped to fight in every district and that the new grouping would probably be the third in size after the Official Unionists and the Democratic Unionists.

The agreed principles include a Bill of rights and a devolved government with scope for all parties.

MP's warning: Dr Brian Mawhinney, Conservative MP for Peterborough and secretary of the party's backbench Northern Ireland Committee, last night warned supporters of the Rev Ian Paisley that the British commitment to defend Ulster could be weakened by "protestant ingratitude" (Our Political Staff writes).

He said that calls for separatist referendums and threats of violence from so-called loyalists pointed more in the direction of independence than of union.

Soldier shot: A soldier was shot in the hip yesterday by gunmen who took over a house in the Ballymurphy area of west Belfast and held a family of three captive for three hours.

Murder charge: A man was charged at Belfast magistrates' court yesterday with murdering reserve RUC Constable Charles Lewis last Friday outside a newsagent's shop (the Press Association reports).

Dermott Finucane, aged 20, unemployed, of Bunclana Gardens, Dunmurry, co Antrim, was remanded in custody until February 17.

Bill to curb indecent displays 'a rehash'

Our Parliamentary Staff

The private member's Bill ich aims to control the public play of indecent matter was ehash of existing legislation ch had failed to deal with issue, Dr Shirley Summer-l, opposition spokesman home affairs, said yesterday.

I am very concerned the use will pass this Bill and adult book producers will gh at it and carry on just they are doing. I am con-ned the police will feel it s not really improve on sting legislation", she said he opening of the committee stage of the Indecent Displays (Control) Bill.

The Government backs the broad objectives of the Bill, which received an unopposed second reading last month. If it becomes law a person who displays indecent matter will be guilty of an offence.

Dr Summerskill, Labour MP for Halifax, said a failing of existing legislation and of the Bill was the use of the word "indecent". She proposed that it should be replaced by "offensive to reasonable people".

She said: "I do feel that the word 'offensive' will catch a great many displays which are not held in law to be indecent." This will make a far more effective and enforceable piece of legislation than the present Bill.

Mr Patrick Mayhew, Minister of State at the Home Office, said he could understand the desire to try to define more precisely the objectionable nature of the material with whose display the Bill was concerned.

But he remained convinced that it was preferable to keep the term which Parliament had used in statutes for about a hundred years. "Indecent" should be left as the decisive concept.

Award scheme celebrates a silver success

The Duke of Edinburgh said last night that his award scheme had provided hundreds of thousands of young people with a kind of education they did not get in school.

Speaking at a dinner at Mansion House to mark the award's twenty-fifth anniversary, he said: "You do not learn about such things as human relations, civilized behaviour, concern for others, self-discipline, fitness or even practical morality sitting at a desk, yet these are all part of education".

London hospitals to lose more than 4,000 acute beds in return for better geriatric and mental service

By Nicholas Timmins

London is to lose more than 4,000, or almost one in seven, of its acute medical and surgical beds over the next seven years, in return for more geriatric, mental illness and mental handicap beds, and improved community services.

A report from the London Advisory Group, endorsed by ministers yesterday, says acute services should be concentrated in 23 of the larger hospitals, including the dozen main teaching hospitals.

But about thirty smaller, local hospitals, which have not been named, will lose some or all of their acute beds, and change to providing geriatric, mental illness or community services. Some will be closed.

The changes, themost radical London's hospital system will have undergone since the National Health Service was founded, were described as "a great day for London's health care" by Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister for Health.

Health authorities should make urgent plans taking the report into account, he said. They should consult in the usual way, but he would watch progress "to see that things really move".

The policy was greeted with some caution by the British Medical Association, which said that unless family doctor and other primary services were improved quickly, patients would face greater difficulties.

"If the reduction in acute beds proceeds before measures are taken to enhance family doctor and other primary health care services, an even greater strain will be thrown upon GPs who are already struggling to cope."

Dr Vaughan said the policy would end years of uncertainty, in which a number of teaching hospitals have been threatened and would mean resources could be transferred from acute services to those neglected areas in which London was ill-provided. The capital, for example, has 15 per cent too few geriatric beds.

The report recommends that a large proportion of the savings made by having fewer acute beds should be retained to *develop those services*. In a foreword, Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Social Services, says he agrees with that suggestion, but future allocations will depend on the relative needs of the Thames regions and the rest of the country.

The report argues that inner London's falling population, expected to be down to 2.5 million by 1990, has had to place too much reliance on acute beds because of poor geriatric, long-stay, family doctor and community services. Those were expensive and not necessarily in patients' interests.

It accepts that the number of acute beds should be cut from 26,650 in 1979 to 22,500 by 1988; the reduction of 4,120 being split roughly between inner and outer London.

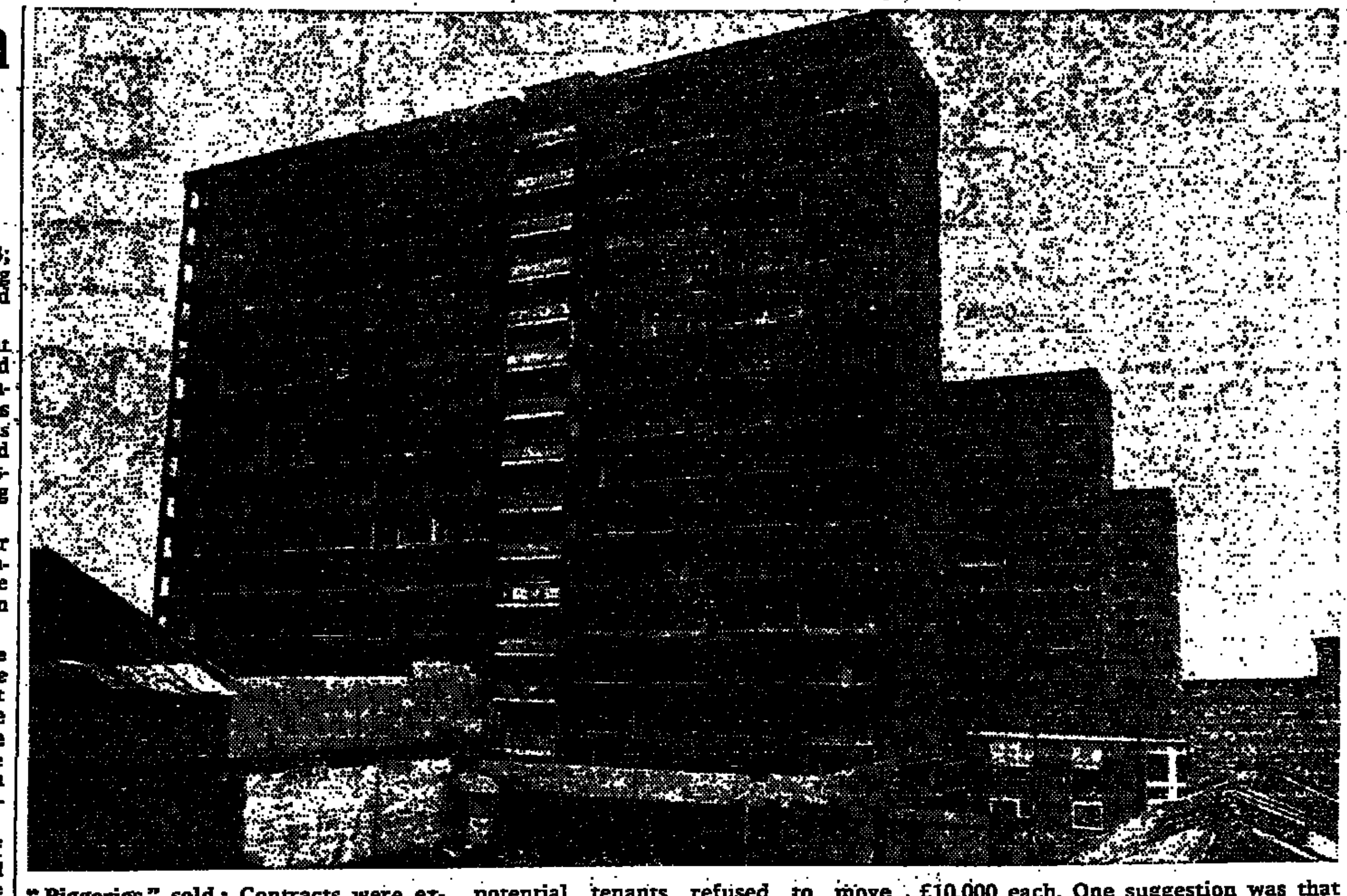
In return, it is essential that geriatric, community and primary care services are improved, to unblock acute beds being filled by elderly patients requiring longer-term care, and to cope with the earlier discharges of patients now taking place.

Commenting on family doctor services, the report says improvements may depend more on central government than local action.

The report argues that the main acute services should be concentrated where the greatest investment has been in the teaching hospitals in the centre of London, and at those like St Stephen's Hospital, Fulham Road, and the Whitting Hospital, Highgate.

The alternative strategy of cuts across the board would hamper big hospitals and make smaller ones not viable, while shutting an important hospital could not easily be justified when less suitable hospitals would need considerable investment.

Accessibility is not on the whole a serious difficulty, the report says. The retention of the central London teaching hospitals would ease the medical schools' job of finding enough patients.



"Piggeries" sold: Contracts were exchanged yesterday between Liverpool City Council and a private property company for the sale of the three large blocks of flats (photographed above), which are locally nicknamed "The Piggeries" (John Young writes from Liverpool). The council decided several months ago to sell the three blocks after they had been persistently damaged by vandals to the point where potential tenants refused to move there. After considering various tenders it accepted an offer from Marque Securities, of London. Although the purchase price was nominal, persistent doubts have been expressed about whether the deal would go through. Even after yesterday's news, there was scepticism about the company's prospects of selling the renovated flats on the open market at an estimated £10,000 each. One suggestion was that they might be purchased by the local health authority or the university for accommodation for nurses or students. Mr Richard Kemp, chairman of the council's housing committee, said yesterday that legal complications had delayed the exchange of contracts. He thought the flats would appeal to single people and childless couples and admitted that they should never have been offered to families.

Government licenses dog disease vaccine

By Hugh Clayton

The first government licence was issued yesterday for pro[duction] of a vaccine against a disease which has killed hun[dreds] of dogs in Britain.

The licence was given to Duphar Veterinary Ltd of Southampton by the Ministr[y] of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food to manufacture a vaccin[e] against canine parvovirus.

Mr Keith Davies, a Yorkshir[e] veterinary surgeon, said at press conference held in Lo[n]don by Duphar yesterday: "W[e] are still seeing cases in our are[a] every week. We are havin[g] about one death a week eve[n] now.

"We originally thought th[at] the term 'killer virus' was very exaggerated statement, b[ut] we soon found that it was n[ot] very far from the truth."

The new vaccine will supe[r]sede cat vaccine, which w[as] found last year to give do[gs] some protection against i[t] disease, but was never license[d] by the Government for use o[n] dogs.

Professor Robert Johnso[n] who worked on the dog vacci[ne] at James Cook Universit[y] Queensland, Australia, said ye[s]terday that different anima[ls] were affected by differe[nt] varieties of parvovirus.

The parvovirus which affect[s] dogs was a mutation whi[ch] affected animals in the c[at] family including cats and leo[p]ards. "This feline virus is very dangerous one", he sai[d].

Mr Davies said that t[he] disease affected dogs very su[d]denly. A puppy that was right one minute would su[d]denly become breathless a[nd] drop dead. When one puppy a litter had been affected t[he] others were almost certain eve[n]tually to die from the disea[se] even though they appeared p[er]fectly healthy.

Mrs Barbara Woodhou[se] author and television broa[d]caster about dog-training, sa[id] that the arrival of the new v[ac]cine was "absolutely terrific". She added: "I heard this mo[rn]ing of an entire kennel bei[ng] wiped out by parvovirus; it w[as] inoculated with feline v[ac]cine."

Digging up the roots

The Irish Genealogical As[so]ciation has been established [in] Belfast to help Irish expatria[tes] to trace their family history.

Mr Stonehouse's mother dies aged 87

Mrs Rosina Stonehouse, aged 87, the mother of Mr John Stonehouse, the former Labour Cabinet minister, died in hospital during the night, it was announced yesterday.

She had been ill for some time and was admitted to Southampton general hospital early last month after a stroke. She died a short while after news of her son's marriage to Mrs Sheila Buckley, his former secretary, became public.

Mr Stonehouse said yesterday that his mother gave her blessing to the marriage, which was in Hampshire on January 31. Mrs Stonehouse, a former mayor of Southampton, was a veteran Labour Party worker.

Fishermen fined for obstruction

By Richard Ford

Eleven fishermen who were arrested while picketing at Grimsby as part of a protest over cheap foreign imports were fined £20 and bound over in the sum of £200 by Grimsby magistrates yesterday.

Nine of the men charged with obstruction were said to have been trying to stop three lorries loaded with Dutch plaice from entering the docks. Erik Nielson, of Cleethorpes, said that their action showed the dire financial straits to which they had been reduced.

Mr John Cutting, presiding, said before fining them: "We cannot concern ourselves with the fishing issues. Your conduct was unlawful". Two men who denied the charge had the case against them adjourned for a month.

Picketing at Grimsby and Fleetwood ended last night and it is expected that inshore vessels will sail today. As the controversy over cheap imports continued, 12 fishermen's wives handed in two crates of cod, bought on the quayside at Grimsby, to 10 Downing Street. On the crates were the words: "Fishermen get 50p for this, it sells in the shops for £1.20p".

The 12 women, led by Mrs Lesley Todd, whose husband is chairman of Humberside Fishing Association, handed in a petition calling for aid to the industry and an end to cheap imports. They were supported by Mr Austin Mitchell, Labour MP for Grimsby.

Elsewhere in Britain, inshore fishermen from Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft held up 70 tonnes of imported Dutch fish for several hours at Great Yarmouth. In the South-west, fishermen will meet in Plymouth today to set up a coordinating committee and start a fighting fund to finance protests.

At Fleetwood, Lancashire, 70 inshore vessels returned to sea yesterday at the end of a three-day tie-up with a warning from fish merchants that they will boycott inshore fish if there is further disruption. The warning followed an incident in which £600 damage was done to lorries belonging to one of the port's main merchants. The inshore men have denied responsibility.

Brussels talks, page 6

In brief

£64,000 award for nurses

Seven female nurses at the Peterborough district hospital have been awarded a total of £64,000 in compensation for back injuries sustained on duty, mainly because of lifting patients. The payments are the result of out-of-court settlements after a four-year legal battle by the National Union of Public Employees.

One of the nurses received £30,000 and other payments ranged from £3,000 to £8,500.

Blast wrecks home

Mr Alan Morson and his wife June were rescued with minor injuries by neighbours from the rubble when their home in Lingards Road, Slaithwaite, Huddersfield, was destroyed by an explosion yesterday. Their two children also escaped. The gas board is investigating.

Hindley honours try

Myra Hindley, who last year took a BA degree in the Open University while serving her life sentence for the Moors murders, has been given permission to go on for an honours degree.

Beaten by moles

Mole hills on two council-owned football pitches in Peterborough have forced two clubs to use other grounds. The council is providing other pitches free of charge until it finds ways of eliminating the mole hills.

JP found dead

Mr William Beatall, aged 57, an Essex magistrate since 1961, was found dead with gunshot wounds yesterday at his farm at Wakering, near Southend. A shotgun was near by.

Prince trains for race

The Prince of Wales went for a training gallop at Lambourn early yesterday in preparation for his race at Newbury on Saturday, when he will ride his hunter *Allibar*.

Furnace blast hurts 3

Three men were hurt yesterday when molten metal exploded in a furnace at the British Steel Corporation's River Don steel works in Sheffield, South Yorkshire.

British Steel fined

The British Steel Corporation was fined £100 with £40 costs by magistrates at Chichester, Sussex, yesterday after it admitted a short weight delivery of stainless steel.

PC's rescue fails

Police Constable Alexander Hart, aged 22, was overcome by fumes yesterday while trying to rescue Mr Frederick Leighton, aged 90, who died in a fire at his home in Upper Elmers End Road, Beckenham, south London.

Move to reduce size of marginal constituency

By Michael Horsnell

The marginal parliamentary constituency of Oxford, regained for the Conservatives at the last general election by Mr John Patten with a majority of 1,497 votes, might be cut in size under a provisional recommendation issued by the Boundary Commission for England today.

The city's electors, who had given Mr Evan Luard, the former Labour MP a majority of 1,036 in October, 1974, will be cut from 81,709 to 60,201.

Six wards of the city would form part of a realigned Abingdon constituency, whose electorate would also be reduced, from 96,447 at the last general election to 63,076.

Under the proposed changes Oxfordshire would have six parliamentary seats, compared with the present three plus parts of four others. The constituencies of Banbury and Henley will remain, with adjustments to reduce their electorates, and two new ones emerge, Wantage and Witney. But Oxon, Mid would disappear.

Under other proposals, Buckinghamshire would have six seats, compared with the present four and part of one other. A new seat of Milton Keynes, comprising all but three of the wards of the new town, would emerge.

Court orders bank to hand over £1,980 from robbery

From Our Correspondent
Douglas, Isle of Man

An Isle of Man court has ordered a bank to hand over nearly £2,000 held in a deposit account, after being told it was part of the proceeds of a £26,000 armed robbery in Northern Ireland in December 1979.

Mr Michael Moyle, the Manx Government-Advocate, told the Chancery Court at Douglas yesterday that the money was stolen in a robbery at the Kilroot power station, Eden, Carrickfergus, on December 20, 1979. He added that £1,980 had been traced to an account in the Northern Ireland Industrial Bank (Isle of Man) Ltd, at St George's Street, Douglas. The money was deposited to an account in the name of the Trustees for Larne Young Protestant Volunteers' Flute Band.

Mr Moyle, who appeared for the power station company, Alton and Company, said the bank was cited as the first defendant and the second defendant was Samuel James McVeigh, who was serving a prison sentence.

Mr Malcolm Kelly, a court official, said he had a letter from Mr McVeigh admitting that the money was stolen. In the letter, read to the court, Mr McVeigh said: "The £1,980 is the property of the plaintiff arising out of a robbery at Kilroot power station. I admit that the money was deposited with the Northern Ireland Industrial Bank and I agree that it be repaid to the plaintiff."

Mr Moyle said: "The bank is an entirely innocent party in this. It was merely the stakeholder as it were."

Deemster Arthur Luft made an order that the money be repaid to the power station company.

Scots supporter fined under new drink law

From Our Correspondent
Edinburgh

The first Scottish football supporter to be charged under the new drink laws, was fined £35 at Edinburgh Sheriff Court yesterday.

Norman Tosh aged 19, a Dundee supporter, admitted being drunk at Easter Road, Edinburgh, last Saturday where Hibernian were playing Dundee in a First Division game.

Mr Tosh, of Carmichael Street, Dundee, contravened the Criminal Justice (Scotland) Act, 1980, it was stated. He had had four pints of lager before the game.

Mr Robert Burnett, for the defence, said that although the case was the first of its kind it had already displayed to him certain difficulties that the courts would have to face in interpreting some parts of the Act.

'Nightmare' search for good pub food

By Robin Young
Consumer Affairs Correspondent

The overwhelming majority of public houses have no idea of what good food is, according to Egon Ronay in his *Raleigh Pub Guide 1981*, published today.

Mr Ronay says that he sent 14 men and women "of undaunted palate and stamina" to inspect five thousand public houses out of many more which had been recommended.

"The failure rate was enormous", he says. Only 935 were accepted for inclusion in the guide. A third of those in last year's edition were eliminated.

"Our search was something of a 'nightmare,'" Mr Ronay complains, citing "inedible travesties of sandwiches, pastry-covered mush sold as pasties, shrivelled bread sausages, and the great British hide-all, curry."

The inspectors found that food in free houses was best, while public houses with managers, as opposed to tenants, served the poorest food.

A poll among the publicans who were successful in getting their houses into the guide showed that only one in 25 attributed his success with customers to the beer he served. More thought it [was] because of their own perso[na]lities, while one in six ga[ve] credit to bar food. More th[an] half thought the attraction [of] their public house was in [its] atmosphere.

The relative unimportance [of] beer was emphasized by [Mr] Christopher Coss, landlord [of] the Greyhound Inn, Sta[ple] Fitzpaine, near Taunt[on,] Somerset, which was chosen [as] Ronay's 1981 Pub of the Ye[ar].

"I have just changed si[x of] the seven beers I keep", Goss said, "and I do not th[ink] any of the customers minde[d]."

Egon Ronay's Raleigh Pub Gu[ide] 1981 (Penguin, £2.25).

Murder inquiry begins into soccer fan's death

By Our Crime Reporter

Scotland Yard yesterday opened a murder inquiry into the death of a Yorkshire football fan found injured near Tottenham Hotspur's ground, north London, last week. Mr Jeremy Burton, aged 19, of Brearcliffe Drive, Bradford, died on Tuesday night in hospital.

He travelled to London by coach last Saturday to watch Leeds United play Tottenham Hotspur but an hour before the kick-off was found by police near the ground with head injuries.

Yesterday a murder squad under Det Chief Supt Robert Sharp began operating from Winchmore Hill police station. West Yorkshire police have also set up a small squad in Leeds

Women cleared over mouse in tank with python

From Our Correspondent
Bradford

A claim that a live, tame mouse was in a state of terror after it was dropped into a python's glass tank as food, was made to Bradford magistrates yesterday.

Experts disagreed and the magistrates, who were told of cases where mice had bitten snakes, dismissed an allegation against a pet shop owner of cruelly terrifying the mouse. They awarded £300 costs against the RSPCA who had brought the case.

Lesley Holmes, aged 20, of Northwhins Farm, Queensbury, Bradford, who put the mouse into the tank, was summoned for cruelly terrifying the mouse. Her mother, Gwendoline, aged 43, of the same address, was summoned for permitting her to do so. Both denied the offences and were awarded costs.

An off-duty policeman who was said to have gone into the pet shop in Great Horton Road, Bradford, saw the mouse in the tank with the python. RSPCA said that the mouse was cowering in a corner and trembling in fear. It had been maintained unnecessarily in a state of terror.

For the women it was stated that the mouse was in the tank less than five minutes before it was removed as the snake was not interested in it. If it had been frightened it would have made attempts to escape and jump out. Mice trembled when they were moved from cage to cage.

Transport budget cut of £5.2m for Merseyside

From Our Correspondent
Liverpool

Merseyside County Council's transport committee yesterday approved, despite strong Labour opposition, a package deal to cut its estimates for the coming year by £5.2m. It will consider saving a further £600,000 needed to bring total cuts to £5.8m sought in the Conservative-controlled county budget.

The Merseyside passenger transport executive had said in a report that the cuts were bound to lead to a deterioration in services on the buses, the Mersey rail network and the cross-river ferries.

Labour opposed each item of the package unsuccessfully in a debate which lasted three hours.

There will be an application for a 15 per cent rise in fares in July, the third in 18 months, and a reduction in buses and trains operating in the late evening and on Sundays.

The Mersey ferries will continue to operate in the peak commuter periods

Jail for fitter who had an arsenal at home

As a child, Christopher May had a passion for collecting firearms, it was stated at Winchester Crown Court yesterday. When the police went to his home, Mr May, a target fitter at the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough, Hampshire, was found to have amassed an arsenal of missiles, ammunition, and explosives, it was added.

Mr May, aged 26, of Sonning Lane, Sonning, near Reading, Berkshire, was sentenced to nine months' imprisonment after admitting five charges [of] possessing firearms, two of [them] ing explosives, and six of th[e]...

He had told the police he [had] been collecting the items fo[r] in his home for years, and s[ome] of them had been taken f[rom] his employers.

He was said in court to h[ave] been found with an air-t[o] missile, a shell, a mortar sh[ell] and a hand grenade.

Mr Justice Michael Da[vies] said he accepted that mos[t of] the items in the collection w[ere] not dangerous.

Average county council rate rises below 10pc

By Our Local Government Correspondent

Rate increases in the non-metropolitan counties in England and Wales for 1981-82 should average less than 10 per cent, the Association of County Councils was told in London yesterday by Mr Ian Coutts, chairman of the association's finance committee.

The counties have gained from the Government's decision to switch resources to their areas away from London and the other main conurbations. That increased their share of government grant by 1.8 per cent.

Rate precept increase among the counties vary widely and include a nil increase in Wiltshire, 3 per cent in Cheshire, 6.4 per cent in Somerset, 13 per cent in Derbyshire and 18 per cent in Gloucester.

Group opposed to nuclear dum[p] claims a victory

From Our Correspondent
Ludlow

A group opposing the [pos]sible dumping of nuclear w[aste] in mid-Wales said yesterday [it] had gained "a temporary [vic]tory" over the Government.

The Institute of Geolo[gical] Sciences, a government age[ncy,] has not made expected [plan]ning applications to carry [out] test drillings on the Pu[...] Gwynedd border.

The opposition group, Pe[ople] Against Nuclear Dumping [in] Rural Areas, named sites in [the] Snowdonia national park as [hav]ing been intended for test [bore]holes by the institute.

Mr Don Arnott, the gro[up's] scientific adviser, said yeste[rday] that local opposition had [de]terred the institute from [sub]mitting planning applicati[ons].

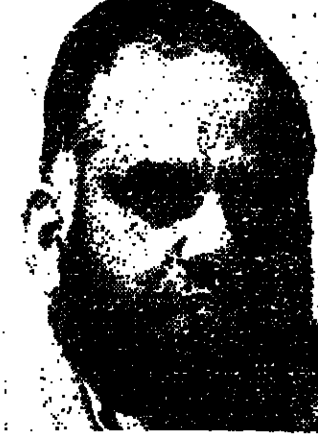
Bias claim on mosque visit pay cut

By Lucy Hodges

A devout Muslim teacher has complained to the European Commission of Human Rights in Strasbourg alleging that the British Government has contravened the European Convention on Human Rights by denying him time off with pay to attend the mosque on Fridays.

Mr Iftikhar Ahmad, of Margery Park Road, Forest Gate, east London, who works for the Inner London Education Authority, has been forced to work part time because of his insistence on going to the mosque every Friday. The authority reduces his pay by £696 a year, and has given him a special contract so that he works at two primary schools, at one for two-and-a-half days a week and at the other for two days a week.

Mr Ahmad says that that is discriminatory. "Because of my religion I lose money. I will never get promotion and I do not even have a class of my own to teach."



Mr Ahmad: Special ILEA contract.

He is challenging a Court of Appeal decision against him in 1977. He had previously taken his case to an industrial tribunal and the Employment Appeal Tribunal.

He rested his case largely on section 30 of the Education Act, 1944, which says that no teacher shall lose money or promotion because of his religious opinions or because he attends religious worship.

The Court of Appeal, with Lord Scarman dissenting, said that section 30 only applied where the school timetable permitted.

In 1974 Mr Ahmad was teaching at a special school and went to the mosque every Friday at lunchtime. As a result his class was left untaught for 40 to 45 minutes in the afternoon. The other members of staff thought that was unfair and eventually the ILEA wrote to tell him he would have to move to a part-time contract.

Mr Ahmad rejected that and resigned. Two years later he accepted the part-time contract because he said he needed the money and felt it better to fight for change within the system.

Conference role for Duke

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The Duke of Edinburgh is to address what was described yesterday as the first international conference on human values, to be held in London at the end of March. The organizers hope the conference will lead to a permanent exhibition centre to promote the idea of service to people, particularly among the young.

Dr Richard Lamerton, a consultant running a domiciliary health service in the East End of London, asked the [Duke] three years ago to do [so]. Britain's tradition of servi[ce to] others what had been done her preeminence in techno[logy] when Prince Albert opened [the] Crystal Palace exhibition.

He has agreed to be p[atron] of the conference, w[hose] speakers will include Helder Camara, Archbisho[p of] Recife, Brazil; Group Ca[ptain] Leonard Cheshire, VC, founder of the Cheshire [Homes;] Dame Cicely Saunders, founder [of St] Christopher's Hospice, Lo[ndon].

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WEST EUROPE

Compromise proposals by Dutch to end EEC fishing dispute

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Feb 11

EEC ministers of agriculture were tonight presented with proposals for resolving the dispute between Britain and France over access for continental fishing boats to British coastal waters.

The access question has emerged during the past three days as the most important obstacle to agreement on an EEC fisheries policy, over which member states have been arguing on and off for more than five years.

Both Mr Peter Walker, the British Minister of Agriculture, and his French counterpart, M Daniel Hoeffel, reacted very sceptically to the new proposals, but neither rejected them out of hand.

The two ministers said they would need to know much more about the detail of what was intended. The Danish and Irish ministers also expressed doubts, for different reasons, while most other states reacted favourably.

The new proposals, which were drawn up by Mr Gerrit Braks, the Dutch minister chairing the meeting, would limit fishing activity in areas off the north of Scotland and in the northern part of the Irish Sea by controlling the number and size of boats allowed to fish there.

In the area off the north of Scotland vessels above 80 feet in length would be banned from specified "boxes" within 12 miles of the Orkneys and Shetlands. In an as yet unspecified zone beyond 12 miles the number of boats allowed in would be controlled under licence.

In the Irish Sea zone all boats above 110 feet would need licences. These restrictions, as also off the north of Scotland, would apply only to boats catching white fish such as plaice, cod, haddock and whiting. Herring and mackerel fishing would not be restricted.

The proposals are designed to give an advantage to inshore fleets from local ports over bigger boats sailing from other member states. Although an improvement on previous offers, the Dutch compromise still falls a long way short of what Mr Walker was demanding.

In the Irish Sea and off the north of Scotland Mr Walker wants waters lying between 12 and 50 miles to be closed to all boats above 80 feet in length. He is also insisting that a 12-mile belt round the entire British coast should be almost exclusively reserved for local fishermen.

M Hoeffel today received strong backing from the French Cabinet for his insistence that there should be virtually no controls outside 12 miles and that France's "historic" catch within these limits should be maintained.

Aid illegal: The European Commission has told Mr Walker that it considers national aids given to French farmers in the past six months to be illegal (Hugh Clayton writes).

Thorn attack: Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the Commission, told the European Assemgly that member governments were hindering the development of the Community (Reuter writes from Luxembourg).

Paris gives Mr Sadat a warm welcome

From Charles Hargreve
Paris, Feb 11

President Sadat of Egypt was received here today with exceptional honours by President d'Estaing—an indication of the French leader's desire to restore friendly personal relations, which had become obscured in recent years by divergences over the Camp David agreements.

Although this is only a private visit, the protocol deployed on the occasion was practically that of a state occasion. The French President and his wife met the Egyptian presidential couple at Orly airport; a guard of honour was on hand.

M Giscard d'Estaing, who is particular about protocol, intended to make the welcome an especially friendly gesture — a return for President Sadat's express desire to come to Paris after his speech to the European Parliament in Luxembourg yesterday.

The moment is well chosen for a revival of the old warm relationship between Egypt and France. The peace process initiated at Camp David is deadlocked and there is a new Administration in Washington, which has yet to clearly define its stand on a Middle East settlement.

The Egyptian President is now turning to Europe for help in getting the peace talks back on the rails, and sees in the initiative of the European Community a useful approach to the Palestinian problem.

The talks at the Elysée Palace, after a private luncheon, lasted two hours. They were described as both "very cordial and very frank".



President Giscard d'Estaing and his wife greeting President Sadat of Egypt and Mrs Sadat at Orly airport.

Europe asked to provide peace-keeping force

From David Wood
Luxembourg, Feb 11

President Sadat of Egypt defined for journalists at Luxembourg airport today some of the significant phrases he left vague when he addressed the European Parliament yesterday.

Above all, he made it clear that his proposal for Europe to offer additional security guarantees could include a peace-keeping force to reinforce economic and political steps in Arab-Israeli relations. He also explained that when he used the phrase "Palestinian entity" in Israel he did not have the Palestinian Liberation Organization in mind.

After two personally successful days of diplomacy in the Grand Duchy, during which he met Mr Gaston Thorn, the president of the European Commission, President Sadat and his wife were on their way to Paris.

Speaking to journalists, President Sadat recognized that his phraseology had not been clear. "I am asking for a European initiative", he said. "Europe must take its share of responsibility" now or later when guarantees would be essential to reach an agreement.

He explained that additional security guarantees did not exclude a European peace-keeping force as an accompaniment to economic and political plans. The most important thing, he said, was to give the Arab states guarantees not only by the United States but also by Europe.

Mr Sadat did not consider Jerusalem as a difficult problem. He did not recommend the PLO to be brought now into talks on Palestinian autonomy, because the talks were not deciding the fate of Palestinians but ending Israeli military occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

After three transitional years the Palestinians would have a right of veto to decide their own fate.

Schmidt pledge to see crisis through

From Patricia Clough
Bonn, Feb 11

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, made it clear he intended to stay at his post today as the Social Democratic Party (SPD) assembled to seek a way out of its deep internal crisis.

The gravity of the crisis, in the eyes at least of some leaders, was underlined by Herr Heinz Kühn, a former deputy chairman. He gave warning in an interview that if the party could not stop the rot "its fall from power will be unavoidable".

Despite their internal differences, however, SPD leaders appear determined to overcome the growing dissent and dissatisfaction which has been threatening the viability of the SPD-Free Democratic coalition.

Herr Willy Brandt, the SPD chairman, tonight presented the party's executive with a five-point programme calling for solidarity

The nine-page document also called on the party to remain true to the coalition with the Free Democrats and to its responsibilities as the senior governing party.

The meeting had been called by Herr Brandt to try and heal the growing rifts within the SPD. Herr Schmidt told journalists before the meeting began that he doubted whether the internal tensions could be dissolved quickly. But he denied suggestions that the troubles were damaging the ruling coalition or compromising the ability of the SPD to govern.

Much of the crisis revolves around left-wing dissent over some of the Chancellor's policies.

Basque mood turns against terrorists

From Richard Wigg
Madrid, Feb 11

Big demonstrations against ETA terrorism in the Basque region's three main cities on Monday have evidently convinced the Basque autonomous Government that the tide has turned in popular feeling against the terrorist organization.

The demonstrations have also provoked one wing of that organization, ETA Poli-Militar, to issue a public condemnation of the methods and strategy adopted by the other wing, ETA Militar.

Señor Carlos Garaikoechea, the Chief Minister of the autonomous Government, today read out a statement calling on the Basques to adopt a "decisive attitude" that would isolate and end the scourge of terrorism and violence.

It was the first time the Government, formed by the Basque Nationalist Party (PNV) which won last year's regional election, had called so unambiguously on the Basques to cease any complicity with or tolerance of the terrorists and their supporters.

The demonstrations in Vitoria, Bilbao and San Sebastián, were in protest against the murder of the chief engineer of a nuclear power station being built near Bilbao, by ETA-Militar men eight days after they had kidnapped him.

Basque newspapers today published the ETA Poli-Militar statement. The killing of the engineer the statement said, was a "concrete example of the incapacity to advance in the solution of Basque needs" by the ETA Militar.

As the "Basque needs" the statement named an amnesty for about 300 Basque terrorists or suspects detained in Spanish prisons and the complete transfer of power to the region from Madrid.

ETA Poli-Militar, the less anarchical of the two wings of the organization, also accused the rival group of having turned into a solely military body "without any capacity to find political solutions to Basque problems".

The Basque government statement also condemned those pro-ETA elements which attacked and stoned Monday's demonstrators and injured Señor Jesus Leizaola, the 84-year-old legendary Basque leader

Protest over restrictions on Royal funeral

From Our Own Correspondent
Athens, Feb 11

Former King Constantine of the Hellenes protested tonight against restrictions on popular participation in the funeral of his mother, former Queen Frederika, which is to be held tomorrow at Tatoi near Athens.

The Greek Government, which has been criticized for allowing the former Queen to be buried in Greece, had put two conditions to the family: The funeral should be a private affair with only family and close friends; the royal family should spend only a few hours in Greece tomorrow, for the funeral.

French Communists play on racial prejudice

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Feb 11

The French Communist Party is threatened with the prospect of achieving its lowest score since 1945 in the presidential elections, as a result of the zigzag course struck by the leadership, and the growing inability of both rank and file and intellectuals to understand its violent anti-Socialist attitude.

It has therefore decided to beat every popular drum, to play on every popular passion and prejudice, in an effort to restore its popular image.

Before Christmas, with the "punitive raid" on a hostel for Malian workers at Vitry, east of Paris, it played on the strong anti-immigrant feeling among French workers. The Communist municipality of La Seyne-sur-Mer, near Marseilles, called in the police recently to evacuate a gipsy encampment. The councils of Nanterre and Saint Denis recently refused to make homes available for workers from the French overseas territories. And the Communist councillors of Ivry, another town in the Parish "red belt", decided that the number of foreign children in its holiday camp should not exceed 15 per cent.

The latest exploit of a Communist municipality was the "spontaneous" demonstration "to expel drugs" staged on Sunday morning outside the home of a Moroccan worker, Mr Muhammad Karbouch, married with eight children. He was suspected on the strength of an anonymous letter to the Communist Mayor of Montigny-les-Cormeilles, M. Robert Hué, of being a drug pedlar.

About 50 Communist activists, complete with banners and megaphone and led by the Mayor wearing his tricolour sash demonstrated outside the home of the Karbouchs, in a high rise building of the "Cité d'Espérance" of the town, while the victims of this new-style pogrom watched fear-stricken and uncomprehending from behind their curtained windows.

Mr Karbouch is a hard working man, who does not go to the café, his wife told reporters. He has been in France eight years, and is highly regarded by his employers. No offence or misdemeanour has ever been held against him, the police confirmed.

"How far will the Communist Party go?" the CFDT trade union organization, close to the Socialist Party asked in a statement. "It is setting up a policy based on electoralism and designed to appeal to the racist sentiments of part of the population."

M André Petit, a Giscardian deputy for the Val d'Oise, where Montigny is located, declared that it was scandalous. "A few years ago, the Communist Party did everything to win the support of foreign workers. All of a sudden, it has turned xenophobic. For the presidential campaign, it is capable of every change of front."

Leading article, page 13

PROPERTY

Iran President attacks communist drive to 'establish tyranny'

From Tony Allaway
Tehran, Feb 11

President Abolhassan Bani-Sadr of Iran today accused pro-Soviet communists of co-operating with the country's ruling Muslim fundamentalists to "establish tyranny" in the country.

In a ceremony marking the second anniversary of the revolution in Iran he told a crowd of hundreds of thousands: "In our Islamic Republic the people's prestige must not be played within such a Stalinist manner and our nation must resist such action."

Ayatollah Khomeini also condemned pro-Soviet elements and launched a surprisingly strong attack on the clergy for excessive interference in government affairs.

In addition, a ceremony in which the student militants who took the American hostages were to have handed over the captured United States Embassy for use by the wounded of the war and revolution, was called off at the last minute after Ayatollah Khomeini said it was "inadvisable".

The large crowds that gathered at Freedom Square in the west of the city to hear the President speak listened in a festive and peaceful atmosphere while the unexpected message of Ayatollah Khomeini was read by his son, Hojatoleslam Ahmad Khomeini.

"This is a serious warning to those clergymen serving in courts . . . and other organizations that they should under no circumstances interfere in areas outside their competence", the ayatollah's message said.

Besides the courts he singled out therevolutionary *khomitehs* largely responsible for internal security, and a body established to help to give the poor basic living facilities.

He said: "Interference in executive affairs of the country, giving people positions, taking their positions away and so on . . . will result in disorder in the affairs of the country and must be avoided."

The ayatollah said there were many instances of such interference and warned the clergy that they were being misled into such actions by "devils" to lower their esteem and "damage Islam".

The ayatollah's statements appeared to lend support to the President. The bodies the ayatollah specifically complained of are controlled by the President's fundamentalist opponents.

Describing the revolution as "this great miracle of the century" and pleading once more for national unity, he said that the United States was now "trying to intensify domestic disputes". But he was even more explicit in attacking "the dangers of international communism".

The ayatollah said: "The danger of communism is not less than that of Western capitalism. The people must be alert for their plots."

Political observers said the ayatollah's message may well have resulted from his talks with the President two days ago, in which the serious problems facing the country were discussed. If so it would support the belief of some observers that the ayatollah is once again shifting the power balance in favour of the President, although still far from giving him his outright support.

Among the matters most probably discussed in Monday's meeting was that strongly pressed by the President in his speech today, the growing concern over the infiltration of the pro-Moscow communist Tudeh Party into the ruling apparatus.

Today the President said: "The Soviet Union's agents . . . are now trying, by cooperation with the group which has control of the country, to establish tyranny.

"We have known you, the leaders of the Tudeh Party, very well for about 30 years. We know you hate freedom . . . We know you are great liars."

Exhorting the people to demand their full rights under the constitution the President declared: "I am ready to die in order to keep the freedom and independence of the country".

The President said the country was in the "third stage" of the revolution when the one group that had seized power—a reference to the clergy-backed Islamic Republican Party—established a dictatorship.

"Our people have no judical rights . . . Still we observe a group of people with knives and clubs attacking gatherings, student dormitories, forcing schools to close illegally and assassinating our people all over the country."

The President, wildly cheered throughout his speech, drew great applause at the end when he repeated three times: "Censorship must be eliminated. Laws must be executed."



Lindbergh claim: Mr Kenneth Kerwin, left, listens intently while his lawyer, Mr Robert Bryan, displays photographs at a press conference in Flemington, New Jersey, of the baby son of Charles Lindbergh, the aviation pioneer, who made the first solo flight across the Atlantic. The child was kidnapped in 1932 and was thought to have been killed. Mr Kerwin, however, says he was the baby in the photographs. He has now begun a lawsuit to force the state of New Jersey to release records which he says will prove his claim to be Lindbergh's son.

Solidarity accused of 'power plot'

From Michael Binyon
Moscow, Feb 11

The Russians today poured scorn on American State Department comments that the Reagan Administration would not grant credits to Poland and was looking instead for economic reform in the country.

A Tass commentary—apparently written before the State Department reversed its position on granting aid to Poland—said the United States was trying to impose economic pressure on sovereign states for selfish political aims. Tass said that the State Department spokesman had made a "kind of ultimatum" that unless the Poles carried out an economic reform, they could not expect any American credits.

The reform the Americans wanted, according to the news agency, was the abandonment of communism, which a recent conference in Washington had called an "unnatural and alien system" for Eastern Europe. But Tass asserted that the Polish people had rejected capitalism "once and for all", and the country was and would remain communist.

A Soviet newspaper, in a long and spicy account of the chaos and intrigue its special reporter said he found in Poland, asserted that plotters, disguised as trade union leaders, were making a bid for political power.

The influential weekly paper *Literaturnaya Gazeta* said the leaders of Solidarity, while describing their union as apolitical, had really launched a fierce political struggle "masked by the pseudoeconomic camouflage of strikes".

The paper said that the "unbridled extremism" of some of the leaders was inspired by the "semi-legal" organization KOR (the dissident Social Self-defence Committee). It described Mr Jacek Kuron, one of KORs leaders, as a "mouthpiece of anti-socialist forces" who for 20 years had been operating on anti-socialist lines, not working but living comfortably in Warsaw on dollars and Deutschemarks secretly sent to him.

The paper said that KOR agents began to infiltrate the Gdansk docks in 1976, playing on the authorities' economic mistakes and recruiting men from the countryside. KOR men were doing their best to take advantage of the people's "weak socialist conviction and understanding of the national interest".

The graphic account included a curious episode in a train, where the correspondent said he met a drunken military attaché from a Nato country who remarked that he was a spy. The correspondent said that KOR kept in regular touch with supporters in Sweden

Kor "set simpletons against the Polish United Workers' Party", linked economic grievances against the authorities with anti-socialist slogans and thus entered the "political arena at the crest of organized actions of workers".

Literaturnaya Gazeta renewed Soviet accusations that Solidarity was receiving large sums of money from the United States and West Germany, and disparagingly added that the union's headquarters were equipped with Japanese printing presses, French duplicators, Norwegian typewriters and other Western equipment.

Toll rises as fighting continues in Zimbabwe

From Stephen Taylor
Salisbury, Feb 11

Fighting between soldiers in three Zimbabwe national army battalions has claimed at least 19 lives in the past five days and is still out of control in one area, Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, told Parliament tonight.

Mr Mugabe said that the situation was serious, "not in the sense of a war going on but that there have been a series of incidents of death and wounding in at least three parts of the country".

The fighting broke out at Ntabazinduna barracks, near Bulawayo, on Saturday and spread on Monday night to Connemara barracks, near Gwelo.

Heavy fire restarted late tonight in the area of Glenville barracks, with reports of tracer fire illuminating the sky

The Prime Minister told the House of Assembly that Ntabazinduna was quiet and that soldiers were being disarmed. Five men had died in the weekend fighting which started after a dispute at a beerhall.

But at Connemara barracks, on the main Bulawayo-Salisbury road, members of the joint high command, including the leaders of the former Zipra and Zanla guerrillas involved in the clashes, had been unable to quell the fighting, he added.

Members of the joint high command had entered the area but repeated efforts had not succeeded in convincing soldiers "still warring in the bush to return to their camp".

"Patrols have been mounted to deal with the lawless elements," Mr Mugabe said. There were reports tonight that large military forces were building up at Que Que and Gwelo, two towns on either side of Connemara which has been cut off by roadblocks since yesterday.

Mr Mugabe said that five people were known to have died at Connemara but that figures were still unclear and the toll might rise.

The most recent fighting was at Glenville barracks in Bulawayo last night where Mr Mugabe said that 10 people had died. However, military sources said today that the bodies of 11 men, all thought to be soldiers, had been taken to the mortuary at Mpilo hospital in Bulawayo.

Although Mr Mugabe specifically avoided naming Zipra or Zanla elements as being responsible, it seems clear that soldiers formerly belonging to Zipra, the military wing of Mr Joshua Nkomo's party, broke into the armoury at Connemara and attacked former members of Zanla.

The next few days are likely to prove crucial to the nation. The factional violence has involved three of the nine battalions formed in the integration process last year, including one of the most senior.

Ottawa seeks source of diplomatic 'leak'

From John Best
Ottawa, Feb 11

Investigations are under way to find who leaked the text of a confidential cable from the Canadian High Commissioner in London to Ottawa on the subject of the controversial plan to patriate the Canadian constitution.

The path of Mr Pierre Trudeau's constitutional reform plan has been strewn with leaked documents almost from the beginning.

The latest episode occurred yesterday when CBC television made public a secret diplomatic cable sent by Mrs Jean Wadds, the Canadian High Commissioner in London, to the *External Affairs Department* here.

In it Mrs Wadds expressed fear that telephone conversations between the High Commission and Ottawa, dealing with Canadian Government strategy for patriating the British North America Act, were being bugged.

"We must take it for granted that phone conversations are all monitored and taped by suitably-equipped countries including certainly Britain, France, the United States of America and the Soviet Union", the High Commissioner said.

"Why give Britain notice of our strategy concerns or judgments of some of its key players? Why give others . . . opportunity for mischief?"

Classified telex messages were "immeasurably safer".

An External Affairs Department spokesman asked today whether an investigation is being conducted into the leakage, replied: "I expect it is being done".

He could not say who was involved in the investigation, but indicated that it covers Government departments to which External Affairs cables are copied, as well as the External Affairs Department itself.

The most celebrated leakage occurred last September, in the midst of a crucial federal-provincial conference of first ministers. It was a 64-page document marked "ministers' eyes only" which gave details of the federal strategy for bringing home the constitution with or without provincial consent.

It made clear that the Federal Government was prepared to treat the constitutional talks then under way "more like a street-fight than a diplomatic negotiation", and assessed the chances of a federal-provincial agreement as "not very high".

Meanwhile, it appears almost certain that there will be a provincial election in Quebec in April.

Mr Réne Lévesque, the Parti Québécois Premier, has called a special cabinet meeting for tomorrow and Friday at which the timing of the election will be discussed.

The Parti Québécois, which advocates Quebec'es independence from Canada, swept into office in November, 1976. Time is thus running out on its five-year mandate; already Mr Lévesque has carried on much longer than the normal four years.

The election dates most frequently mentioned in speculation are April 6, 7, 13 and 27.

Britain recalls its High Commissioner in Canada

By Our Foreign Staff

Sir John Ford, the British High Commissioner in Canada, has been recalled to London for "consultations" over the Canadian constitutional dispute which yesterday saw the announcement of Sir John's retirement, and the leakage of Canadian diplomatic cables from London to Ottawa.

Sir John is back in London "to brief Lord Carrington and officials on the constitutional situation", the Foreign Office confirmed last night. Debate on the issue resumes next week in the Canadian Parliament.

There was an inquest at the Canadian High Commission in London yesterday over the leaked cables, in which Mrs Jean Wadds, the High Commissioner, said Britain was probably tapping Canadian communications on constitutional strategy. Although the cables were sent under Mrs Wadds's authority it was strongly implied that Mrs Wadds was not the author.

A source at the High Commission said they were "reasonably certain" that the cable was not leaked from London. It is thought in Ottawa that one or more civil servants have been responsible for the leaks.

The present strains arise from uncertainty over whether Westminster will endorse future legislation amending the Canadian constitution and establishing a Bill of Rights before relinquishing to Canada all legal control of these instruments.

The High Commission source in London thought it unlikely that Mrs Wadds's effectiveness in dealing with the British Government would be impaired by the leaked cables.

The cables welcomed the retirement to the backbenches of Mr Norman St John Stevas, who had raised objections to the Trudeau package, and urged a propaganda "snow job" on Mr Jonathan Aitken, Tory MP for Thanet, also an opponent.

Disruption predicted: If, within a month, Mr Pierre Trudeau, the Canadian Prime Minister, submits a request for the patriation of the British North America Act, the Government is still determined to do its utmost to have the British parliament accede to a request from the Canadian Federal Government (Our Political Editor writes).

However challenge and disruption is predicted in both the Commons and the Lords.

Diary, page 14

Angry denial by son of Mr Reagan

President Reagan's eldest son Michael, aged 35, who is under investigation for allegedly diverting $17,500 (£7,480) invested in a gasahol project to his own personal use, has angrily denied any wrongdoing, and claimed that the Los Angeles district attorney's office "is out to get me because of my famous last name".

Speaking at his home in the suburbs of Los Angeles, he said: "If my name wasn't Reagan none of this would have happened. I've done nothing wrong but it seems since Watergate somebody is always trying to find something. First, you had Billy [Carter] and now all of a sudden I'm in the papers."

The Los Angeles district attorney today denied his office had singled Mr Reagan out because he was the son of the President, and said the scrutiny of his activities was a valid investigation.

On Monday it was disclosed that the district attorney and the State Department of Corporations were investigating Mr Regan and his lawyer for possible violations of corporate laws.

Investigators said the Reagan inquiry began as an investigation into his involvement with a Los Angeles business promoter, against whom several people had complained.

Washington ready to help Poles

From David Cross
Washington, Feb 11

After a day of confusion about its intentions on economic aid for Poland, the Administration here has made it clear that it wants to help Warsaw to overcome its difficulties.

At the same time, it is loath to pour good money after bad if the authorities in Warsaw are not up to the task of introducing reforms to put the economy back on the tracks.

Most important of all, it wants to do all it can to prevent a Soviet invasion of Poland without being seen to interfere

The confusion arose yesterday when a State Department spokesman said that the Administration was still looking at the Polish situation and "it is our feeling that what is needed most of all in Poland is internal economic reform."

An important point which remained untouched by all of yesterday's confusion was the determination of Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, to play down press speculation here that he now believed a Soviet invasion of Poland was a foregone conclusion.

The State Department spokesman, who said he was speaking on behalf of the Secretary of State, said that the Administration regarded Soviet military intervention as "neither imminent nor inevitable nor justifiable".

Warsaw thanks Moscow for its help in crisis

Continued from page 1

He said that General Jaruzelski had a taste of battle in the front line during the Second World War and that all his life he had shown himself to be a Polish patriot.

The psychological effect of the central committee's decision to bring General Jaruzelski more directly into politics is already noticeable. The general, who does not usually appear in Parliament in his uniform, did so today resplendent with all his decorations.

Mr Kania made it clear that whereas the outgoing Government of Mr Jozef Pinkowski carried its burdens well, the new stage in which the country was heading towards "catastrophe", weakened by political strikes and "grave danger", needed another personality.

It needed a leader of government capable of being lenient when necessary, but acting firmly in the face of pressure and blackmail and especially in the face of "political challenge coming from the adversaries of socialism".

A recent upsurge of alarmist reports about the Polish situation which appeared daily in the Soviet and Soviet-block press, clearly suggested that Moscow was losing confidence in the ability of the Polish Government to halt the dangerous trend.

But Mr Kania went out of his way to dispell any such notion, and made a point of thanking the Soviet Union for its help, understanding, and particularly for its confidence in the ability of Poles to settle their difficulties alone.

He assured Moscow once again that Poland is, and would remain, socialist and of the party's determination to act firmly, and decisively against political adversaries who were trying to divert the country from its socialist course.

It is against such dramatic speaking that the Polish Roman Catholic Church has once again come out to support the authorities with a call for wisdom, and restraint.

The Polish Roman Catholic bishops, who met yesterday, called on the nation to refrain from all action that might precipitate new tension, to avoid reacting in haste.

The bishops also warned the authorities that "nothing can be achieved by diktat" that social contracts of last autumn must be implemented.

Papal plea: The Pope in Rome today called on all sides in Poland's labour disputes to display calmness, maturity and a sense of responsibility.—Reuter.

Crisis report: The report "The Polish Crisis: Western Economic Policy Options" by Professor Richard Portes, referred to on page 5 of *The Times* on Tuesday, is published by The Royal Institute of International Affairs, price £3.50.

Diary, page 14

Mrs Thatcher to visit the Gulf

Mrs Margaret Thatcher is to visit Saudi Arabia, Oman and the United Emirates between April 19 and 24, the first such visit by a serving Prime Minister.

She will make the visits on the way home from her visit to India from April 15 and 19, it was announced from Number 10 Downing Street yesterday.

Israelis speed up seizures of land

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem, Feb 11

Since the beginning of this year the Israeli military authorities have expropriated more than 5,500 acres of land in the occupied West Bank in an apparent attempt to maximize the territory under Jewish control before the general election on June 30.

Much of the expropriated land is to be used either to create new Jewish settlements or to expand those already established. Last week 1,500 acres were confiscated near the large Arab town of Nablus in order to provide an industrial sector for the isolated settlement of Ariel.

Other areas where land has been expropriated in recent weeks include the Arab town of Tubas, near Nablus, where *mukhtars* were informed that about 1,900 acres were to be taken, and the Hebron district where nearly 2,000 acres were seized from nine different villages.

In addition the military government has recently published planning orders barring Arabs from building in the vicinity of all main roads in the West Bank, as well as around army camps and some settlements.

Jewish settlers in Kiryat Arba and Gush Etzion, both south of Jerusalem, have been encouraged to "realize ownership" of land allocated to them by planting trees and erecting fences.

In almost every case of recent land seizure the military government has declared the area in question to be "state land" and given local Palestinians 21 days to produce the necessary deeds to prove otherwise. If the deeds are not forthcoming the military government then assumes the title as the acting sovereign power.

This week a letter protesting at the Israeli policy is to be circulated to all 120 members of the Knesset by Mr Elias Khoury, a prominent east Jerusalem lawyer who is planning to launch appeals in the Supreme Court against seven different cases of land seizure. He is acting on behalf of more than 200 West Bank families.

"The Israeli moves amount to the biggest land seizure operation since the West Bank was occupied in 1967", Mr Khoury said today.

Mr Khoury, who successfully challenged the legality of the Eilon Moreh settlement in 1979, claimed that the Israelis were now taking over land which had often been cultivated by Arabs for many years but which in most cases had never been properly surveyed.

"Often deeds to these lands just do not exist and it is impossible to organize and finance a survey in the 21 days allowed", he said. "In many instances the Jews are being given control of land formerly used by Arabs to grow crops, graze animals or expand their villages."

Mr Khoury claimed that the tactic of seizing so-called "state land" was being used to circumvent the decision taken by *the Government and later* reinforced by the court ruling in the Eilon Moreh case, not to seize private Arab land for Jewish settlements.

"The Israelis are now trying to create facts so that if the Labour Party takes power it will not be able to change them again", Mr Khoury said. "In the process they are exploiting poor Arabs who are often ignorant of their rights".

Many Palestinians believe that a recent statement by President Reagan declaring that the West Bank settlements were not illegal has encouraged land seizure.

But advance warning of the policy now being adopted by the Israeli authorities was given in a Hebrew document published last September by Mr Mattityahu Drobless, chairman of the settlement division of the World Zionist organization.

"In light of the current negotiations on the future of *Judea and Samaria, it will now* become necessary for us to conduct a race against time", Mr Drobless wrote then.

"During this period everything will be mainly determined by the facts we establish in these territories and less by any other considerations."

US not to press neutron bomb on Nato allies

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Feb 11

Reaffirming his personal support for the neutron bomb, Mr Caspar Weinberger, the new Secretary of Defence, said today that the controversial weapon could do "quite a lot" to restore an East-West balance of force in Central Europe.

In an interview with *The Washington Post*, he insisted, however, that the weapon, which he called by its technical title "the enhanced radiation warhead", would not be forced on America's Nato allies. "It's not that we are going to say, 'All right. It's here. You've got to take it or leave it'."

Mr Weinberger, who emphasized that he was speaking for himself, not for the whole of the new Reagan Administration, pointed out that the American Government had made a policy judgment some time ago that the neutron bomb was "a helpful addition to the strength of the theatre nuclear forces" in Europe.

If deterrence should fail and Soviet tanks moved into West Europe, the enhanced radiation *produced by the neutron* warheads would pierce the armour of the enemy tanks and kill their crews without contaminating the surrounding ground to the point where it could not be used by allied troops, he said. "I think it's a very good addition."

OVERSEAS

Ugandan opposition leader held over army depot attacks

From Charles Harrison
Nairobi, Feb 11

Armed soldiers have arrested Mr. Bidandi Sali, aged 43, a Kampala businessman and secretary-general of the Uganda Patriotic Movement (UPM), after the wave of attacks on police stations and army depots earlier this week.

Security forces are understood also to be searching for Mr Yoweri Museveni, the UPM president, who was vice-chairman of the military commission which was in power in Uganda until the December elections. All but one of the UPM candidates were defeated in the elections.

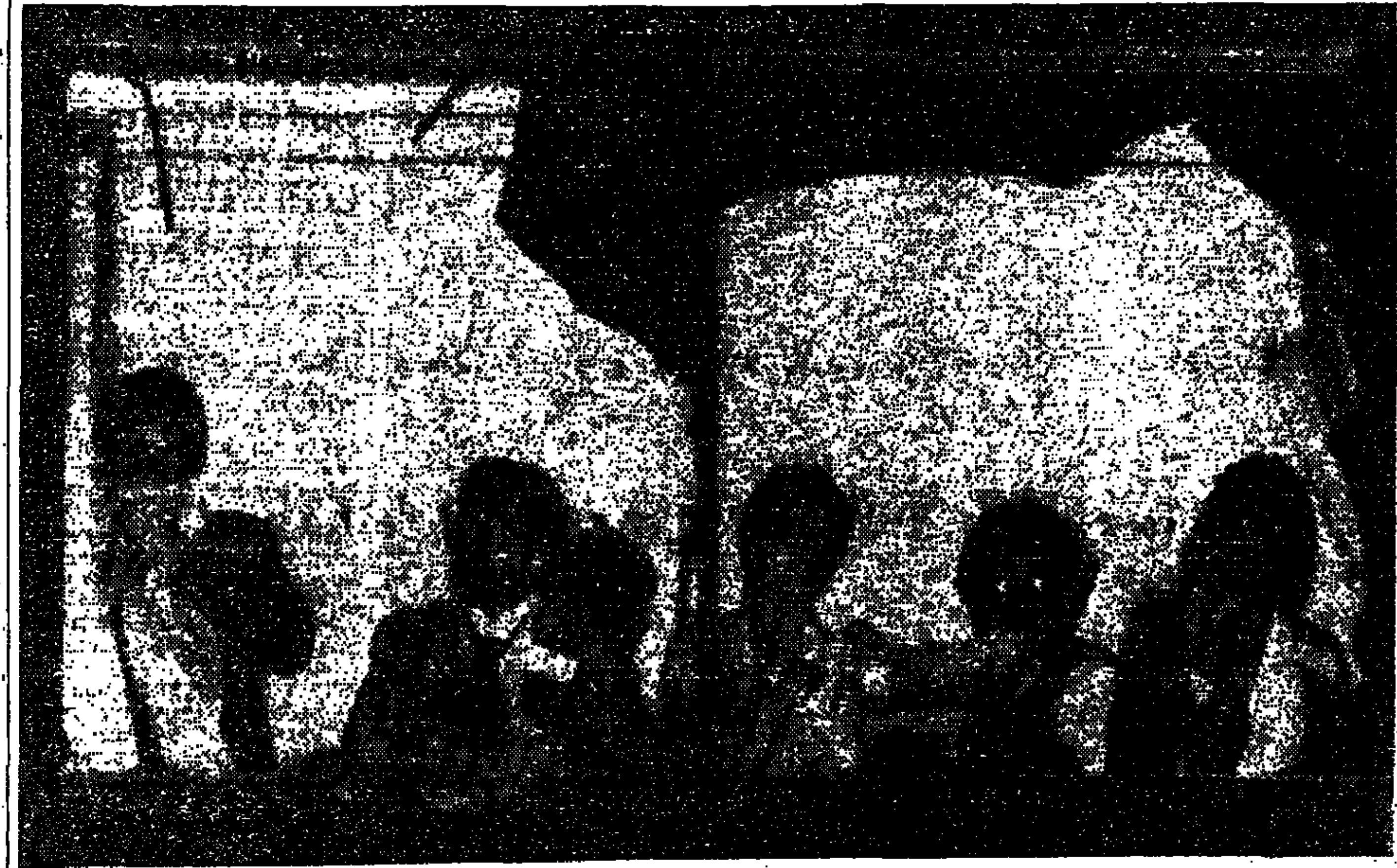
An unknown, and so far anonymous underground group, the Uganda Freedom Movement (UFM), has claimed responsibility for the attacks; but Uganda government leaders appear to think that the UPM was involved.

Kampala was quieter today, after two days and nights of gunfire; but intensive searches are going on for the organizers of the attacks, in which arms were stolen and in which a policeman and army officer were killed.

Some of the 10,000 Tanzanian troops who have remained in Uganda since driving out former President Idi Amin in 1979, have been redeployed to support the Ugandan forces. President Nyerere of Tanzania said this week that his troops are due to be withdrawn in June, but they may stay longer if Uganda requests this.

A UFM spokesman today claimed responsibility for the attacks. "The UFM is now spearheading the revolution reverberating throughout Uganda", he said. "We are making steady progress. We already control the western region of Uganda."

The spokesman refused to be identified and also refused to name leaders of the UFM. He also denied that either Mr Bidandi Sali or Mr Museveni were involved with the UFM.



Hotel guests, cut off by the fire at the Las Vegas Hilton, shouting to firemen for help. Eight people died in the blaze.

Christian revival approved by Peking

From Richard Hughes
Hongkong, Feb 11

Non-denominational Christianity is being revived in China by the Peking-approved Chinese Christian Three-self Patriotic Movement.

The Rev Shen Derong, the movement's secretary-general, told Dr Andrew Chiu, a Hongkong Lutheran missionary, that 100,000 Chinese copies of the New Testament were distributed in China in October and the entire Bible has been available in the country since Christmas Day.

Hymn books in Chinese are being distributed to Christians in Shanghai, Fujian and Zhejiang provinces. At the third China national Christian conference it was decided to begin the training of new clergy.

The Rev Shen Derong, originally a Presbyterian pastor, told Dr Chiu, who visited China recently, that the China Church was not anti-foreign and was indeed eager to open friendly relations and fellowship with all Christian churches abroad.

"We would gratefully accept invitations from any overseas churches to send delegates abroad", he said. "But there will be no acceptance of smuggled Bibles or other religious items which disregard the authority of the China Church and the Three-self Patriotic Movement."

The Christian magazine, *Tian Feng* has resumed publication after having been suspended since the Cultural Revolution. It publishes devotional notes and lectures, traditional hymns and news of the Three-self Patriotic Movement to all Christian communities in China.

Turkish army arrests 53 in swoop on left

Ankara, Feb 11.—Turkish security forces announced today that they had arrested 53 people after the discovery of an outlawed left-wing organization in Adiyaman province in South-Eastern Turkey.

A military announcement said 22 of the group were accused of being members of the outlawed organization while 31 others were held as accomplices.

The 22 were being charged with the murder of seven people, injuring another two and responsibility for a number of bombings, robberies and arson, the military authorities said.—UPI.

Chinese call to halt car imports

From David Bonavia
Peking, Feb. 11

The Chinese Communist Party has called for a halt to imports of cars, television sets and other electronic luxury goods, most of which are bought from Japan.

The article on the front page of the *People's Daily* was timed to coincide with the beginning of talks with a high-level Japanese Government and business delegation which is seeking to salvage some orders from the recent large-scale cutback on China's imports.

Japan has been hardest hit by the Chinese leadership's decision to suspend most heavy industrial construction projects, especially those with imported plant, which was disclosed last December.

"Reckless importing not only wastes our foreign currency reserves, but also enevitably damages our domestic motor industry", the party organ said in an unusually forthright statement. It also claimed that China's television industry was being hit by imports of Japanese sets, which have grown rapidly over the past year.

China makes only two types of car—the luxury Red Flag limousine for political leaders, and an old-fashioned saloon with the brand-name Shanghai.

Jeeps, lorries and other vehicles are also produced domestically, but the call for a halt to imports seems specifically aimed at passenger cars.

The amount of imports is modest. Since 1949 some 300,000 cars have been imported from various countries, according to incomplete statistics.

By far the biggest exporter is Toyota, which gained a foothold in the Chinese market in the early 1970s with the sale of an entire taxi fleet for Peking at a knock-down price. Since then, Toyota has set up a special service station here, and the make has become particularly popular among foreign residents.

None the less, China remains only a minor market for cars imported from anywhere.

Japanese minibuses have been brought into China in significant numbers in recent years, and to acquire one is a status symbol for any large industrial enterprise or government department.

The timing of the call for a freeze on imports of cars and consumer electronics is obviously intended to warn the Japanese delegation that they have hard bargaining ahead. Discussions are expected to centre on China's cancellation of orders for Japanese plant, especially in the steel industry.

The Chinese Government is understood to be angry that Japanese steelmakers consented to build a huge plant at Baoshan, near Shanghai, when they knew that the land was marshy and in other ways unsuitable. Much of the project has had to be scrapped.

The present import cutback affects suppliers throughout the developed world, however, not just Japan. The party leadership has decided that its economic planning is gravely faulty and must be reexamined over the next four years.

Maltese MPs told of huge backlog in higher courts

From Our Correspondent
Valletta, Feb 11

The House of Representatives last night started debating the second reading of a controversial Bill which Mr Dom Mintoff's Labour Government has tabled to limit legal proceedings against the Government.

Dr oJseph Brincat, the Minister of Justice, who opened the debate said that litigation involving the Government had grown enormously so that there was a backlog of 6,000 cases in superior courts alone. The Government was taken to court on every minor issue and this had to stop, he said.

He added that the Government had already provided machinery for complaints to be dealt with by various commissions and bodies suc has those dealing with complaints about Government housing and employment.

This machinery would be extended to other departments such as customs.

Dr Brincat said the commission being set up to supervise court procedure and lawyers' behaviour could be compared to "the system of lay observers" existing in other countries.

He added that administrative *discretion should not be subject* to judicial review except in ultra vires cases. Matters of policy were the government's concern

The section which stated that there could be no judicial proceeding filed against the Government before 10 days from serving the relevant judicial letter meant there could be no cases of urgency against the Government. He emphasized that this did not constitute an infringement of human rights.

Dr. Guido de Marco, the shadow Minister of Justice and deputy leader of the opposition Nationalist Party, said the proposed legislation went directly against the established principle that the Gvernment should be treated as an ordinary citizen since everyone was equal before the law.

Giving the Government 10 days to look into a case was *against human rights* because by the time the case was heard the plaintiff could be faced with a *fait accompli*, he claimed. Moreover, courts would lose control over executives' behaviour, he said.

The Chamber of Advocates has described the government move as "a step of constitutional gravity never before witnessed in this country". The gap had been widened between state and citizen which went against the great principle of equality before the law on which everything else rested.

The parliamentary debate is expected to last for several more days.

Soviet deal: Malta has agreed to let the Soviet Union store up to 300,000tonnes of oil on the island, a step which may herald closer ties between the two countries (Reuter reports from Valletta).

South Koreans cast votes for electoral college

From Jacqueline Reditt
Seoul, Feb 11

South Koreans went to the polls today to vote for an electoral college of 5,278 members in the first stage of the presidential election. In two weeks' time the electoral college will choose the new President

There was a notable absence of election fever or excitement, as most people here consider a victory for President Chun Doo Hwan and his Democratic Justice Party a foregone conclusion.

"I think President Chun will win for sure; the script was written several months ago", a young man said today, reflecting the general opinion.

President Chun, former army strong man, has recently declared that in spite of earlier assertions to the contrary, he is now a politician and accepted the leadership and presidential candidacy of the DJP. Nearly half the total number of candidates for the electoral college have been put up by the DJP which expects to win at least 75 per cent of today's votes.

In addition to the 4,610 DJP candidates there are more than 3,000 independents, but as many of these also support President Chun they represent no threat to his inévitable victory.

The main opposition party, the Democratic Korea Party has about 1,300 candidates while the other two parties that have put up presidential candidates, the Civil Rights Party and the Korea National Party have only about 100 candidates each.

World View — by Arrigo Levi

West stands firm to prevent cold war

Three Western leaders have recently offered their thoughts on the future of East-West relations and world peace. President Reagan in his first news conference and in his talk with American editors; President Giscard d'Estaing in his ample *entretien télévisé*; Herr Helmut Schmidt in his Bundestag speech; and the French President and West German Chancellor again in their Paris communiqué, have told what, in their view, should come "after détente".

Sharing a wish to prevent a *new cold war, the three leaders* have told what the conditions are for the resurrection of an improved détente; although the word "détente" is out of favour and new labels are suggested.

Comparisons are hateful, but I shall award first prize in this leaders' competition to President Giscard d'Estaing for an extraordinary performance covering the whole picture of international relations, while second place ought to go to Herr Schmidt.

President Reagan's views and world philosophy seem to be much less elaborate, while *other European leaders, who* have kept silent, cannot complain if President Giscard d'Estaing and Herr Schmidt have once more taken the leadership of Europe. In any case, their Paris communiqué represents the European majority view.

What is more important is that President Reagan's occasionally rough thoughts and the two European statemen's refined analyses appear to be much nearer than might have seemed possible.

President Reagan starts from a somewhat simplified view of past détente: "a one-way street the Soviet Union has used to pursue its own aims". We know that Europeans attribute a more positive value to the détente process, which, in their view, has powerfully contributed to the present political crises of the Soviet system.

But it now turns out that President Giscard d'Estaing's reservations about old détente are quite similar to president Reagan's. What détente meant, according to the French President, was peaceful coexistence between East and West "living together without making war", but also "a change in the positions of influence in the world, which has largely taken place in favour of the Soviet Union". The two Presidents are equally determined to put an end to such one-sided détente.

President Reagan formulates this aim by reaffirming the concept of "linkage": "You can't just sit down at a table and negotiate" arms control agreements, he says, without reference to Soviet activity in other parts of the world.

The French President and Wets German Chancellor say that a new "stabilization" which ought to take the place of old détente, still demands "restraint" and "moderation" by the Soviet Union. In future, there should be no further change in the *Rapports d'influence* in the world and the Soviet Union ought to respect the independence of others, starting *with Afghanistan and Poland.* Otherwise détente will not survive. So, the Europeans' "stabilization" is nothing else but old détente, globalized through linkage.

President Reagan also says that armaments talks should aim at a "legitimate reduction of nuclear weapons" (which Europeans can only approve of), while their start should not wait upon the development of America's new rearmament programme, although such a programme is the precondition for a balanced agreement.

President Giscard d'Estaing and Herr Schmidt openly ap*prove of President Reagan's* determination to make America stronger: "It is bad for the world balance of power", the French President says, "if one superpower, especially our ally, is weak". They only give warning that the right aim is to put a remedy to present inferiority, not to reach for "military superiority". But President Reagan has never said that he aims at achieving American superiority. Ineed, it will take all of his energy just to put a stop to the emerging American inferiority.

At a time of great tensions and dangers, when the Kremlin has clearly indicated its determination not to respect Poland's diversity and independence, such attempts by Western leaders to define the conditions for a return to better East-West relations may sound like an exercise in wishful thinking.

But it is at least reassuring, on the eve of what might well become a great world crisis, that President Reagan's America and Western Europe should find themselves in fundamental agreement on such basic points of policy, even before President Reagan has met any of Europe's *leaders.*

Perhaps too much has been made of Atlantic disputes. The West's substantial cohesion ought to be declared as forcefully as possible, as soon as possible, in order to prevent any Soviet miscalculations.

Commonwealth campaign against hunger urged

Dacca, Feb 11.—President Zia ur-Rahman of Bangladesh today opened a three-day meeting of Commonwealth ministers of agriculture, food and rural development by appealing to the Commonwealth to chart out a cooperative programme for eliminating poverty and hunger.

"The task before us may seem to be of staggering magnitude, but given the political will and commitment, we should be able to transform together the agrarian structure of the developing countries within the Commonwealth", he said.

More than 100 delegates from 20 of the 44 Commonwealth countries are attending the conference.

President Zia suggested that the Commonwealth could establish special incentives to encourage countries hit by food deficits to increase farm output on a priority basis.

Sir Shridath Ramphal, secretary-general of the Commonwealth, who spoke later, said that while achievements in food production in the Asan region "generally give us cause for hope, developments elsewhere have a contrasting darkness."

Describing the food situation in Africa as the "grimest", Sir Shridath said that millions in that continent endured acute hunger and faced the prospect of starvation. More than 150 million people in 26 African countries, including nine Commonwealth members, were suffering from abnormal food shortages. — Agence France-Presse.

UN envoy for Afghan talks

Delhi, Feb 11.—Dr Kurt Waldheim, the United Nations Secretary-General, today named Señor Javier Perez de Cuellar, his Under-Secretary, as United Nations representative on Afghanistan in an attempt to facilitate negotiations between Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan.

Mr Agha Shahi, the Pakistan Foreign Minister, said later that the United Nations representative would help to iron out differences between the three countries so that settlement talks could begin.

Dr Waldheim's announcement in an address to a foreign ministers' conference of non-aligned countries in Delhi today was unexpected in view of differences between the three sides.

An insert to his prepared speech naming Señor Perez de Cuellar was handed out to delegates and journalists only moments before he began speaking.

Mr Shahi told a press conference that the United Nations representative would visit various countries including Afghanistan and its two neighbours to try to remove outstanding "procedural impediments".

Britain and the Third World: Irrigation schemes make the bush veld bloom

A crucial role in Swaziland's sugar industry

This is the third of four articles examining the work of the Commonwealth Development Corporation.

From Nicholas Ashford
Mhlume, Swaziland, Feb 11

Mr Hugh Maziya stuck his hands in his pockets and proudly surveyed the fields of sugarcane, its spiky green foliage waved gently in the breeze, which surrounds his house.

Just over a decade ago Mr Maziya was an impoverished teacher in southern Swaziland. Then one day he applied for a plot of land on an irrigated smallholder settlement scheme at Vuvulane, situated in the northern Lowveld not far from the Mozambique border.

Since then he has not looked back. In addition to his sugar cane, which is processed by the local Mhlume Sugar Company mill, he is also producing a couple of acres of cotton as well as oranges, mangoes and vegetables for his own consumption.

"I am 10 times better off than when I was a teacher", he boasted and he pointed to two cars (admittedly neither of them in prime condition) parked outside his house. With a take-home income of around £3,000 a year, he is now one of Swaziland's wealthier citizens.

Mr Maziya is one of 263 farmers at Vuvulane, the country's most ambitious smallholder development scheme. They hold 20-year leases on irrigated plots ranging in size from eight to 16 acres.

An organization called Vuvulane Irrigated Farms assists the farmers with expertise, fertilizers, harvesting, hiring of tractors, bank loans and almost anything else needed to make the farms work.

The project was created by the Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC), which has had unique experience in developing smallholder schemes in Third World countries. The Corporation saw the need to establish smallholder skills in a country where most of the 500,000 inhabitants are subsistence farmers.

Vuvulane is situated alongside two of the biggest CDC projects in Swaziland. One is the Mhlume sugar mill, the largest in the country with an output last year of almost 132,000 tons, and the other is the Swaziland Irrigation Scheme, which produces sugar cane, citrus and cattle.

Sugar is central to the Swazl economy. Last year it contributed 37 per cent of the nation's foreign exchange earnings.

By 1982, about 80,000 people will live directly or indirectly off sugar production. Since the CDC started operating in Swaziland in 1948, it has played a formative and often crucial role in the development of the sugar industry.

It began with the irrigation scheme, which is situated on 105,000 acres of former bush veld. The CDC acquired the land from King Sobhuza II in 1950. By building 40-mile irrigation canals from the Komati River, the CDC was able to transform a barren piece of land into one of the most fertile areas of the country.

The irrigation project was soon followed by the establishment of the Mhlume Sugar Company, initially set up in partnership with a private South African Company. Today it is equally owned by the CDC and the Swazi Nation, which acts as a kind of national development corporation.

In one form or another the CDC is currently involved in organizations which between them produce about half of the total Swazi sugar output.

The CDC is involved in several non-sugar activities. It is a partner with Courtaulds in a large wood pulp mill in Usutu and it has interests in an iron ore mine, a packaging concern, a pineapple growing project and an hotel.

Swaziland is the biggest single area of CDC operation. Almost 10 per cent of the corporation's capital, amounting to £45m, has been set aside for projects in Swaziland. CDC projects provide 8,000 jobs and about 40,000 Swazis derive a living from the corporation, making it the largest employer in the country after the Government.

Why has the CDC become so deeply involved in a country which was once considered one of Africa's most impoverished backwaters?

The answer is partly because it is the CDC's function to assist with the development of such backwaters. "A second reason is that, according to Mr Arthur Van Dorssen, the regional CDC controller for Southern Africa, "There were excellent development possibilities in Swaziland".

But probably the key factor has been the encouragement which the CDC has received from King Sobhuza. "We have an excellent relationship with the King and the Government", Mr Van Dorssen said.

The relationship between the Swazis and the corporation is mutually beneficial. Most of the CDC activities in Swaziland are profitable, so the corporation can claim it is following the dictum laid down by Lord Reith (a former chairman) that it should "do good without losing money".

For their part the Swazis are pleased not only by the fact that CDC activities produce revenue and provide jobs, but that the corporation has set the pace as far as pay, promotion and conditions of employment for blacks are concerned.

In the final analysis the Swazi Government is aware that the more men like Mr Maziva there are, the better chance the country has of surviving the political turbulence building up around its borders.

Next: Caribbean

Law Report February 11 1981

Chancery Division

Exclusive Brethren trust a charity

Holmes and Others v Attorney General

Before Mr Justice Walton

The purposes of the trust known as the Kingston Meeting Rooms Trust (Feltham) for the benefit of the fellowship known as "The Brethren" or "The Exclusive Brethren" formerly the Plymouth Brethren are *charitable.*

His Lordship so held in making a declaration sought by Mr Robert Edward Holmes, of Chessington, Surrey, and other trustees that the trust was a valid charitable trust. The trustees were appealing against the decision of the Charity Commissioners that the trust should be removed from the Central Register of Charities.

Mr Charles Sparrow, QC, Mr Francis Ferris, QC, and Mr Patrick Talbot, for the trustees; Sir Ian Percival, QC, Solicitor General, and Mr John Mummery for the Attorney General.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the question was whether the purposes of the trust were charitable. It *had been established* by a trust deed dated August 31, 1978, and the purposes included the acquisition of property for use as a meeting room. The deed had been presented to the Charity Commissioners for registration under the Charities Act, 1960, and had in fact, been registered. It had then been taken off the register as the original registration was said to have been a mistake. The trustees therefore appealed to the court.

The Brethren claimed to be a fundamentalist group of Christians. The group was founded at the beginning of the nineteenth century at a time when the churches of England and Ireland were spiritually in a very bad way. Their main doctrine had apparently always been that the members should separate themselves from the world. Thus, although they were quite content to earn wages as employees, but not in any type of business they regarded as improper, they would not join in partnership with a non-brother, they would not watch television or go to the cinema, nor even, apparently, listen to the radio. In other words they were an ultra puritan sect. As happened with such sects there were schisms from time to time, each side thinking it had the monopoly of truth and was right. Oliver Cromwell said: "I beseech you, in the bowels of Christ, think it possible you may be mistaken."

The Brethren were a sect but did not regard themselves as such. They had a creed, but it was difficult for an outsider to gather what it was. They had a settled informal constitution and a leader, but no formal hierarchy. They said they had no rituals, but in the celebration of the Eucharist they undoubtedly had a ritual, however informal.

All that demonstrated that it was indeed a religion, or part of a religion, and it was thus clear that the trust deed was one for religious purposes. There was a presumption, therefore, that the purposes were charitable. That presumption could be rebutted and would be rebutted if it were shown that the trusts were not for the public benefit.

The next question that arose was whether the Brethren were a totally enclosed type of organization as decided in *Cocks v Manners* ((1871) 12 Eq 574) and *Gilmour v Coats* ([1949] AC 426). The court was bound by the evidence in the case and it had not been challenged by the Solicitor General.

According to the evidence, which his Lordship accepted, outsiders were allowed to attend meetings other than the celebration of the Eucharist and business meetings, and there were public attempts to proselytize by conducting campaigns in the streets.

The final question was whether, nevertheless, the practices of the Brethren might be said to be contrary to the public interest, more particularly in relation to what they called "discipline", notably in two branches, "shutting up" and "withdrawal". All the evidence the court had relating to that was found in the affirmation of Mr Frank Rich, of Farnham, Surrey, one of the Brethren, which the Solicitor General had accepted. The evidence was all one way, and as presented there was nothing in either doctrine to which exception could be taken. The Solicitor General himself had urged that the evidence clearly strengthened the presumption of a trust for religious purposes.

Solicitors: George Carter & Co; Treasury Solicitor.

'Application is made' when posted

Brady v Licensing Authority for the North West Traffic Area

Before Lord Justice Ormrod, Lord Justice Griffiths and Mr Justice Purchas

[Judgment delivered February 10]

A lorry driver whose application for a licence to drive heavy goods vehicles under the Road Traffic (Drivers' Ages and Hours of Work) Act, 1976, was posted on December 22, 1976, but was not received by the licensing authority until January 5, 1977, was held to have made the application in 1976 as required by the Act. The licensing authority had refused to grant him a licence on the ground that they had no jurisdiction as the application had been received out of time.

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by Mr. John Joseph Brady, of Netherton, from the Divisional Court (Lord Widgery, Lord Chief Justice, and Mr Justice Neill, Mr Justice Michael Davies dissenting) which held that the authority had correctly declined to exercise jurisdiction to grant a licence as his application was not "made" until the application was received by the licensing authority.

Mr David Mackay for the appellant; Mr Simon D. Brown for the licensing authority.

LORD JUSTICE GRIFFITHS said that the appellant had driven a three-ton lorry for his employers for some three years before 1976. During 1976 new regulations came in force, and the lorry was re-classified and could carry extra weight. As a result the driver of such a lorry was required to hold a heavy goods vehicle licence. By virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 2, to the 1976 Act the appellant was permitted to apply for a full licence entitling him to drive a heavy goods vehicle without submitting himself for a test of competence if "the application for the grant of a licence is made during 1976".

The appellant had filled in the appropriate form, attached the necessary medical certificate, bought a postal order and posted everything required to the licensing authority on December 22, 1976. The form was not received by the licensing authority until January 5, 1977, and the envelope was post marked January 4, 1977. The authority declined to grant the licence on the ground that there was no jurisdiction to do so as the application had not been made before the end of 1976.

The question was whether the appellant had made his application before the end of 1976. The court was only concerned with the construction of the paragraph in the Act. Reported cases in which phrases like "has to be made within six months" had been construed by the courts were unhelpful in the present context.

Mr Brown had submitted that no application had been made until the application had been received by the authority. His Lordship could not construe "is made" as if the terms included "and received by".

Suppose two lorry drivers had posted applications on December 22, 1976. One had arrived in time and was granted a licence. The other arrived late and was refused a licence. That would be a manifest injustice. The court was concerned with justice for the appellant as against the administrative convenience of the licensing authority.

In his Lordship's opinion the application had been made during 1976. There was no requirement that the application should have been received by the authority in 1976. The appellant should have his licence.

Mr Justice Purchas and Lord Justice Ormrod delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Markbys for Layton & Co, Liverpool; Treasury Solicitor.

'Penalized' by refusal of parking space

Carlson v Post Office

Before Mr Justice Slynn and Mrs D. Lancaster

An employee who was refused a permit for a parking space because he was a member of an independent trade union not recognized by the Post Office was "penalized" within the meening of section 23 of the Employment Protection (Consolidation) Act, 1978.

The *Employment Appeal Tribunal* allowed an appeal by Mr John Carlson, from a decision of a Cardiff industrial tribunal that his employers, the Post Office, had not taken action against him for the purpose of penalizing him for his membership of a union not recognized by the Post Office, contrary to section 23 of the Act.

Section 23 provides: "(1) Subject to the following provisions of this section, every employee shall have the right not to have action (short of dismissal) taken against him as an individual by his employer for the purpose of (a) preventing or deterring him from being or seeking to become a member of an independent trade union, or penalizing him for doing *so, or (b) preventing or deterring* him from taking part in the activities of an independent trade union at any appropriate time, or penalizing for doing so; or (c) compelling him to be or become a member of a trade union which is not independent."

Mr Jeffrey Burke for Mr Carlson; Mr Christopher Carr for the Post Office.

MR JUSTICE SLYNN said that Mr Carlson's union, the Engineering Officers Technical Association (EOTA), was not recognized by the Post Office. He applied for a permit to park his car at his workplace, a telephone exchange at Newport. He was told that the allocation of permits was "up to the individual union concerned".

Mr Carlson alleged that there was discrimination in that he had been told that because EOTA was not recognized by the Post Office, its members were not entitled to consideration for parking permits. The Post Office contended that the allocation of spaces was the subject of a local agreement with the Council of Post Office Unions, (only those recognized by the Post Office) and that th[e] Post Office were unable to hel[p].

The industrial tribunal fou[nd] that Mr Carlson was refused [a] parking space solely because [he] was a member of EOTA. Th[ey] said that they had to be satisfi[ed] that what was done was done f[or] the purpose of "penalizing". They considered that that did n[ot] cover "every piece of inconveni[ent] behaviour that employers m[ay] commit, and that it was u[n]realistic to regard the refusal of [a] parking permit as a penalty".

It was important to bear in mi[nd] that, before a breach was esta[b]lished, what was done had [to] amount to action taken by [the] employer; it had to be agai[nst] an employee as an individual, a[nd] it had to be for the purpose [of] penalizing the employee for bei[ng] a member of an independent tra[de] union. By virtue of section 25 [it] was for the employer to show t[he] purpose for which action w[as] taken against a complainant a[nd] that it was not such a purpose [as] referred to in section 23(1)(a)( ) or (c).

Refusal of a parking permit w[as] capable of being "action taken". To "penalize" could not [be] *limited to the imposition of pu[ni]tive punishment* or to a financ[ial] penalty. To penalize meant "subject to a disadvantage". a[nd] the industrial tribunal were wro[ng] to say that the refusal of a pa[rk]ing licence was incapable [of] amounting to penalizing.

The decision of the indust[rial] tribunal would be set aside a[nd] the case remitted to a tribu[nal] to spell out what was the purp[ose] of the action relied on and [to] declare whether it was such [a] purpose as was referred to in s[ec]tion 23.

Solicitors: Everett & Toml[in], Pontypool; Mr S. Rothstein.

PARLIAMENT, February 11, 1981

Difficulties in producing cars at Linwood: search for new industry

House of Commons

Regret at the loss of jobs to West Central Scotland which would follow the closure of the Linwood car plant announced by the Talbot Motor Company earlier today was expressed by Mr Alexander Fletcher, Under Secretary for Scotland.

Mr Fletcher (Edinburgh, North, C) said that the Secretary of State for Scotland (Mr George Younger) and the Secretary of State for Industry (Sir Keith Joseph) and himself had been in close touch with the top management of PSA Citroën and Talbot about future manufacturing operations in the United Kingdom, particularly at Linwood for some time.

We have explained in detail (he went on) the Government assistance available for new investment projects in assisted areas, both through regional development grants and selective financial assistance under Section 7 of the Industry Act, and expressed the strong hope that PSA would maintain manufacturing in the United Kingdom to the full extent envisaged in the declaration of intent, to which the company subscribed in 1978.

Despite a significant improvement in labour relations and productivity since PSA took over at Linwood, it was the company's decision, against the background of very severe market competition, serious financial losses in 1979 and 1980 and the high investment costs of introducing new models, that it could not maintain production at the plant.

It emerges clearly from the company's statement today that its productive capacity in the United Kingdom considerably exceeds its present and prospective market share and that concentration of its was the only realistic course open to it.

Apart from the 4,800 jobs which will be lost at Linwood itself, there will be consequences for suppliers. Linwood has, however, been operating at a low level of production for many months and the local sourcing of components is limited.

The company has, however, made clear that it intends to maintain a substantial presence in the United Kingdom concentrated in the Midlands.

An important investment proposal to introduce another model at its Ryton, Coventry, plant is at an advanced stage of planning.

The company is also confident there are secure futures for the plants at Stoke, Dunstable and Luton.

I am considering urgently, in advance of the shutdown at Linwood in the end of this year, what measures we can realistically take to generate new employment in the area.

The Secretary of State and I shall for this purpose be seeking urgent discussions with the local authorities concerned, the Scottish Development Association, the Scottish TUC and the CBI in Scotland.

Mr Allan Stewart (East Renfrewshire, C), who had called for the statement, said: In the light of this economic catastrophe it is tragic that the 1978 agreement with PSA has proved to be so full of loopholes as to be worthless. Will he broaden his discussions about new jobs with all interested parties? In particular the existence of a skilled, responsible workforce in west central Scotland should be of considerable attraction to Nissan.

Mr Fletcher: I agree with his remarks. We will broaden our discussion in every way possible including any prospects of persuading Nissan, if they finally decide to come to the United Kingdom, to take up the facilities at Linwood. Their specification is for an 800 acre greenfield site.

We are fully aware of the contents of the agreement between the Government and PSA Talbot. This matter has been raised with PSA.

Mr Bruce Millan, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland (Glasgow, Craigton, Lab): Today's announcement is disastrous to the west of Scotland which has already been devastated because of the effects of the Government's economic and industrial policies.

We treat with complete scepticism what the statement said about the Government's efforts to persuade Talbot to stay in the United Kingdom, and specifically in Linwood, when we note the defeatist nature of the statement he has made.

We remember that the Conservatives voted against the Labour Government's original rescue of the Chrysler operation in the United Kingdom. As for Mr Stewart, only last week in a question to the Prime Minister he was telling us of how buoyant the Scottish economy was. He should tell that to the workers in Linwood now.

The agreement with Chrysler which was taken up by Peugeot when they took over those obligations in 1978 included the most specific pledges to keep Linwood as well as other British manufacturing plants open. If it had not been for these pledges considerable sums of government money that have been given to this company would not have been given. We expect these pledges to be kept by the company now.

There will be a sense of bitterness among workers in Linwood who have cooperated in every way possible with higher productivity and the rest of the last few years and now see all their hopes and efforts dashed.

If there is any feeling in Coventry that what has been said today is at least optimistic from their point of view I would disabuse them of that. If pledges regarding Linwood can be broken, pledges regarding Coventry can be broken as well.

We may be seeing the first step being taken towards the complete withdrawal of the Talbot operation from the United Kingdom. Talk about alternative jobs in the west of Scotland is so much hot air. In Scotland we shall not accept today's announcement. We shall fight to see it reversed. (Loud Labour cheers.)

Mr Fletcher: That was very much a rallying call. There was nothing positive or constructive in what he just said. It is disastrous news for the west of Scotland. That is appreciated on both sides. The workers at Linwood who have been on a tightrope in the past few years will be deeply disappointed at the decision.

The scepticism he has expressed about the negotiations conducted with PSA about the prospects of further investment are totally unjustified. Having been present at those discussion I do not believe any part of Government funds would have attracted PSA to make a new and substantial investment at Linwood for the simple reason that they are suffering from over-capacity.

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles, L): This statement is calamitous for Scotland. He is under an obligation to tell us more about the discussion that took place between his colleagues and the company. How much public money has gone into the company and with what strings attached over the last few years?

Mr Fletcher: The conversations were perfectly straightforward. It was very much a matter on our part of ensuring that the company was fully aware of the Government's financial support that would be available to them in the event of them deciding to make substantial investment on a new car at Linwood. They were made fully aware of that. For reasons of over-capacity they decided they could not proceed along those lines.

On Government funding, besides the usual Industry Act assistance for projects, the Government has met some £60m of losses incurred in the United Kingdom business of Chrysler.

Mr Barry Henderson (East Fife, C): This tragedy is part accounted for because our people have preferred to buy other types of cars, and also because the trade union militants over a great many years seriously affected the performance of the Linwood plant and disgraced Scotland's record. (Labour protests.)

Mr Fletcher: Since the company took over management of Linwood productivity has increased by over 20 per cent.

Mr Allen Adams (Paisley, Lab): The minister and the Government are behaving like Pontius Pilate and are washing their hands and walking away. They are not attempting in any way to retain this company at Linwood or to put any meaningful pressure on the company to stay.

Mr Fletcher: For many months the Secretary of State and I have been discussing with the company the prospect of a major investment for a new model at Linwood and making it clear that Government assistance would be available.

We have reached the stage where the company has decided that because of over-capacity it has no commercial reasons for making the investment and has decided to withdraw.

As for the future, I have indicated that we will explore every possible avenue to find a new industry to take over the plant at Linwood.

Mr Albert McQuarrie (East Aberdeenshire, C): In their criticism the Opposition have forgotten the serious strike record of the employees in Chrysler.

In view of the improvement in productivity, would the minister not agree that as there is adequate green area around Linwood the requirement would be well suited for that area?

Mr Fletcher: That is a matter for Nissan to decide. We will bring this to their attention.

In previous years productivity and labour relations were bad at Linwood. In the past two years there has been a great improvement in productivity of 20 per cent and an improvement in industrial relations. This will be helpful to the Government and others in trying to find new owners for the premises.

Mr Norman Buchan (West Renfrewshire, Lab): For 16 years I have been trying to preserve this factory and the town of Linwood. The minister's weak acceptance of the decision of this company is going to spell the death of the town as surely as happened to Jarrow in the thirties. Has he any sense of the bitterness and anger that exists?

The Government was involved in the declaration of intent on the continuation of manufacturing in Linwood. When in the name of God is it going to face up to its responsibilities and do something? (Labour cheers.)

Mr Fletcher: We have been facing up to those responsibilities ever since we inherited the economic situation from the Opposition in May, 1979. The first company to go into Linwood, Rootes, went bankrupt; then came Chrysler who reduced their business substantially and now we have Talbot pulling out. It is some measure of the difficulties of producing cars at that plant.

An application by Mr Norman Buchan for an emergency debate on the closure of the plant was rejected.

BSC to borrow another £500m: corporate plan still being studied

The British Steel Corporation is to be allowed to borrow a further £500m taking its borrowing ceiling up to £6,000m, Mr Norman Tebbit, Minister of State for Industry, announced in a statement. A Bill was being introduced today and he hoped MPs would allow it to have a swift passage into law.

Mr Tebbit (Waltham Forest, Chingford, C) said: I will be introducing today the Iron and Steel (Borrowing Powers) Bill 1981 which will increase the British Steel Corporation's borrowing powers by £500m. This Bill will enable the corporation to continue in operation on reaching the current statutory limit of its existing borrowing powers in the course of the next few weeks.

As the House will know, the Government received the British Steel Corporation's corporate plan shortly before Christmas. Decisions on the plan involve the consideration of very large sums of taxpayers' money, and will affect the position of a number of private sector companies whose areas of operation overlap those of the corporation. The Secretary of State for Industry will be making a further statement to the House when the Government have reached their conclusions on the corporate plan.

At that stage, as foreshadowed in the Queen's Speech, the Government will introduce a further Bill which will deal with the future of the Corporation and its financial reconstruction.

In view of the urgency of the corporation's need of increased borrowings and the essentially interim nature of the Bill which I am introducing I hope that the House will facilitate its swift passage.

Mr Stanley Orme, Opposition spokesman on industry (Salford, West, Lab): We are astonished that the Secretary of State is not making the statement on the MacGregor plan. Delay will create further uncertainty in the steel industry which is already difficult.

What part have Conservative back benchers played in Sir Keith Joseph withdrawing his statement today? What pressure was put on to change the Secretary of State's mind after he gave a firm commitment that he would make a statement this week?

The minister should refer the MacGregor plan and the private sector proposals to joint discussion and trade unions and management should be brought into those discussions.

He could do something immediately not only to help the corporation but also the private sector if he did something about energy costs which many other countries do for their steel industries.

When are we getting the full statement from the Secretary of State?

Mr Tebbit: The House will receive the full statement from the Secretary of State when we have completed consideration of the MacGregor plan and its implications. The questions of energy costs and all other matters will be taken into consideration in considering that plan.

The Secretary of State has not withdrawn his statement: I am making an interim statement.

Sir John Eden (Bournemouth, West, C): Can he assure is that any discussions with the private sector will lead to genuine joint arrangements and that any funds voted to the corporation will not be used by them to eliminate competition in the private sector?

Mr Tebbit: The aim is that they should be viable companies which can stand free from their private sector parent and from BSC.

Mr Michael Brown (Brigg and Scunthorpe, C): Can the minister give an indication of how long the £500m will enable the corporation to continue trading? What is the cost of the MacGregor proposals.

Mr Tebbit: When the full statement is made, there will be a full account of the sums involved. The present money will last about six months as things are at present but circumstances can change for better or for worse in an industry like this.

Mr Martin Flannery (Sheffield, Hillsborough, Lab): In cities like Sheffield, a great question mark hangs over the entire steel industry. Every firm in the Sheffield and Rotherham area has a catastrophic energy crisis because of this Government. Every steel company is wondering whether the Government will shut down the whole steel industry.

Mr Tebbit: Mr Flannery should recollect that £500m is 1p on income tax and have a sense of proportion.

Mr Peter Emery (Honiton, C): The House has a right to know the final commitment before passing a Bill.

The MacGregor plan is a reorganization which will cost £4,500m. It may involve the writing off of money already given and the commitment of new moneys. It would be silly to keep the two matters separate.

Mr Tebbit: We would have preferred to have brought forward a single Bill which would have coped with the problems but the corporation is running against its borrowing commitment and long-term reconstruction but it is not possible to bring forward the whole reconstruction programme in time. But for this Bill the corporation would run out of money.

Mr John Osborn (Sheffield, Hallam, C): The private sector has had to face severe competition from BSC which is moving into what has hitherto been its field. What discussions is he having to ensure that the state's money does not provide unfair competition against a struggling private sector?

Mr Tebbit: This is one of the crucial points of difficulty at the moment in the steel industry. To a large extent, the difficulties in both the private and public sectors are caused by extremely low prices set throughout the whole of Europe by the considerable over-capacity in Europe.

It would be possible for either side to refuse to meet such low prices, but the consequence would be less volume of production and the industry would run into heavier losses.

Mr Michael Grylls (North-West Surrey, C): In the 13 years since nationalization, BSC has lost £1,500m in accumulated losses and the private companies have made a profit of £700m.

Will be make it a firm condition of this extra money to BSC that a certain amount be used only for redundancies and restructuring and not for competition which might well push private companies out of business?

Mr Tebbit: I understand his anxiety. In the state of the market in Europe and the world beyond, if we were to prohibit BSC and had the powers to prohibit the private sector companies from selling at a loss we would condemn them to closing down their capacity on a massive scale.

I am anxious that state money should not be used to undermine companies that have a long and successful record.

Mr Gregor Mackenzie (Rutherglen, Lab): In view of the announcement about the Talbot plant, how does he propose to help the steel industry in this difficult situation?

Mr Tebbit: We heard the news of the proposed closure of the Linwood plant this morning. That is a short time in which to react to the problem of what will happen to the steel industry in Scotland. That is one of the matters we will have to consider as we look at the corporate plan.

Mr Donald Coleman (Neath, Lab): There will be disappointment that the statement on the restructuring of the British steel industry has not been announced. The continuing dillying and dallying of the Government will lead to further indebtedness.

Mr Tebbit: He should cast his mind back to the disastrous consequences of the Beswick review which was a political bodge job and damaged the steel industry and we are still picking up the bills for it.

It is not unreasonable, when sums of this sort are asked for and the industry has a problem as worldwide as the steel industry, that we should take more than a couple of months at the most to get the thing organized and get it right.

Mr Tebbit said during later questions that some Labour MPs seemed not to care about the interests of private sector workers in the industry who they regarded as a lesser breed than those in the public sector. The Government was considering the interests of the whole industry.

Mr Peter Hardy (Rother Valley, Lab): No matter what plans are prepared and which of the poodles happens to announce them at the despatch box, unless central government policy is changed the steel industry, private and public, is imperilled. Will he assure us that the delay we have seen in this matter is not intended to soften up BSC?

Mr Tebbit: If he imagines Mr MacGregor can be softened up by taking a few extra days or weeks over the consideration, he has never met Mr MacGregor. (Laughter).

Mr Allen McKay (Penistone, Lab): Some Tory backbenchers seem by their attitude to be wishing for the death of BSC. Will he assure us that is not the intention?

Mr Tebbit: It is unjust of him to say that I or any other Conservative is interested in the death of the corporation. I would hardly be introducing a Bill requiring a further £500m of public borrowing for BSC if that were so. At that price it would be one of the most expensive funerals on record.

The Iron and Steel (Borrowing Powers) Bill was presented and read a first time.

Minister tells fishermen they should go out to fish

The refusal of British fishermen to go out and fish was not the correct response to the alleged dumping of fish by foreign vessels in British ports, Mr Russell Fairgrieve, Under Secretary for Scotland, said at question time.

Mr Iain Sproat (Aberdeen, South, C) asked for a statement on the latest situation in the fishing industry.

Mr Fairgrieve (West Aberdeenshire, C): The Government recognizes that the industry continues to face considerable difficulties and has brought forward the review of the industry's economic position which was due when the present aid scheme ends in March.

The fisheries negotiations which began in Brussels on Monday continue today and the ministers concerned will report the outcome as soon as possible.

Mr Sproat: All sides of the House will totally support the strong line the Government has taken in rejecting out of hand the French proposals and the Commission's so-called compromise proposals. How long are the current talks likely to go on?

Mr Fairgrieve: The Council of Fisheries Ministers is still in session. It is possible that there will be a statement tomorrow. The British ministers are fighting extremely hard on behalf of our fishing industry.

Mr Jo Grimond (Orkney and Shetland, L): Has the Government received any information from the Dutch Government following inquiries we understand it is making about allegations that the Dutch are dumping fish, contrary to Common Market regulations, in this country?

Mr Fairgrieve: These negotiations are still continuing. Until we settle the common fisheries policy the only quotas are those that are being applied voluntarily by each country, so there is no action which the Government can take at this moment.

Mr Bruce Millan, chief Opposition spokesman on Scotland (Glasgow, Craigton, Lab): Reports coming out of Brussels so far are in no way reassuring about the nature of the settlement the Government may be contemplating.

The Opposition expect the Government to keep to the pledges it has made repeatedly in the House. If it does not, any settlement reached will be completely unsatisfactory and will be rejected not only by the fishing industry but by the House.

Mr Fairgrieve: He has no evidence that the reports are not reassuring. They might even be assuring. He knows the political difficulties we have with the French Government and its elections. This Government will not sell British fishermen down the river.

Mr Albert McQuarrie (East Aberdeenshire, C): The problem in the fishing industry is that which has arisen in Fraserburgh and Peterhead on the import of fish which should not be imported against the prices being obtained on the quay.

McQuarrie speaking

Will he take active steps to ensure that the only fish imported into this country is that which is required for the processing factories? Any other white fish imports should be banned completely.

Mr Fairgrieve: I accept what he has to say up to a point. Investigations on this matter are taking place. I do not think the correct response is for our fishermen not to go out and fish.

Mr Donald Stewart (Western Isles, Scot Nat): There is great anger and concern in the industry at the reported remarks of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Mr Peter Walker) that he was seeking to minimize the demands of the French on the 12-mile limit.

If that was conceded in any way, apart from other aspects of the settlement, that would be regarded by our fishermen and by me as sheer treachery.

Mr Fairgrieve: Some of those remarks are shared by MPs on all sides. It would be wrong to anticipate negotiations going on which the ministers concerned will probably be speaking to the House about tomorrow.

Mr Gavin Strang, (Edinburgh, East, Lab): The enormity of the disaster facing the Scottish inshore fishing industry. Will he make it clear to the Secretary of State for Scotland (Mr Younger) and the Minister of Agriculture that if these talks break down we will expect not just a statement outlining the talks but a plan of national measures to save our own industry?

Mr Fairgrieve: As an earnest of this Government's intentions towards the fishing industry, in the present financial year we have given the industry £17m, over half of which went to Scotland.

Mr David Myles (Banff, C): Will he ensure that if by chance these talks break down, consultation measures will be undertaken to ensure that there are fish stocks to fish in the future?

Mr Fairgrieve: It is not for me to anticipate the decisions of the ministers in Brussels. We are fortunate, particularly so in Scotland, that we have two such competent ministers. There will either be a breakdown or a satisfactory solution for Britain.

Debate sought on relations with Canada

The Canadian High Commissioner in London was apparently alleging that communications with Ottawa were being intercepted, Mr Bruce George (Walsall, South, Lab) said when he unsuccessfully applied for an emergency debate on the deteriorating relations between Britain and Canada.

He said the issue had become increasingly urgent. The British High Commissioner in Canada had been withdrawn a week after making statements which caused something of a minor furore.

When so many things were happening to the detriment of Anglo-Danadian relations, a debate in the House would clarify the situation. If a debate was not possible, he hoped the Prime Minister, Leader of the House or Lord Privy Seal would make an urgent statement. It was essential to preserve good relations between the two countries.

Liability for compensation in air crashes

Mr Charles Morris (Manchester, Openshaw, Lab) was given leave to bring in a Bill to remove limits established by the Warsaw Convention of 1929 and assocated legislation on compensation payable to the dependants of victims of accidents involving aricraft flying to or from the United Kingdom.

He said the Warsaw Convention under which the ceiling on liability and compensation was imposed was in effect a shambles. Existing maximum compensation liability levels were only a fraction of the amount of damages people might expect to receive under the British law of negligence following loss of life in a bus or railway crash.

The Bill was read a first time.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: Education (Scotland) (No 2) Bill, second reading.

House of Lords

Today at 3: European Assembly Elections Bill, second reading. Wildlife and Countryside Bill, committee (fifth day).

Survey of housing conditions in England

Britain faced its greatest peacetime housing crisis for more than half a century, the construction industry was it its lowest ebb for many years, and the cause of the crisis was Mr Michael Heseltine, the Secretary of State for the Environment, Mr Gerald Kaufman, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment, said when opening a debate on the housing and building industry.

He moved a motion condemning the Government's housing and construction policies, which had made homes for sale and to rent scarcer than for generations, had driven up the costs of buying and renting a home to higher levels than ever before, and had resulted in postwar record unemployment figures in the construction industry.

Mr Kaufman (Manchester, Ardwick, Lab) said: No doubt when Mr Heseltine comes t speak we shall be regaled with the formula to which the House is now accustomed from him—fiddled figures which will not stand up to a moment's examination, phoney comparisons with the record of the Labour Government, all the paraphernalia of a shifty politician in a fix which we come to know so well.

None of his usual strategems could dispose of the stark facts. Building trade federations had estimated that by next year total new work completed by all construction bodies would be at only 60 per cent of the 1970 level, that public investment in roads, bridges, sewers, schools and hospitals would be only half the 1970 levels and that public new housebuilding would be no more than quarter of the 1970 level.

That was what Mr Heseltine's friends were saying, which was different from the kind of materia' from the feedrations before the last election. They had distributed carrier bags (an example of which Mr Kaufman held up to the House) saying "Keep Britain's builders free". The bags were now useful only as receptacles for Tory broken promises to the builders, builders who were now free all right, free to go bankrupt.

There had been posters. One had said that the result for the building industry of Labour policies would be more public intervention, less efficiency, higher costs, inevitable losses, more taxation and fewer jobs. Every one of those dire prophesies had been fulfilled—by a Tory Government.

The housing investment programme was now less than half what it was when Labour left office.

The results of the relentless attack by the Government on housing for rent and for sale was made known last week when the housing figures for 1980—the minister's first full year of office—showed that the number of new housing starts for sale was the lowest for 28 years and the number of public sector starts was the lowest in peacetime since 1924-25.

The number of new council house starts fell to the miserable dribble of 27,000. The total of private and public sector starts at 152,000 was the lowest in peacetime since 1924-25.

The minister was not only presiding over the worst housing programme for half a century, he had made housing more expensive than at any time in the country's history.

Even if council house sales fell far below the Government's declared expectation of 120,000 in the next financial year, they were still likely to exceed the number built, now that the house building programme had been almost wiped out, so that for the first time in the history of the public sector, there would be fewer houses for rent at the end of the year than there had been at the beginning.

This attack on the housing programme was a tragedy for those in need of homes and a disaster for the workers who wanted to build them and instead were thrown on the dole.

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, (Henley, C) moved a Government amendment welcoming the measures that the Government were taking to restore a sound economy, to make better use of the existing housing stock, to revive the private rented sector, to provide a new charter of rights for public sector tenants and to extend home ownership more widely than ever before.

He said there had not been one single constructive proposal in Mr Kaufman's entire speech. Between 1974-75 and 1978-79, the Labour Government halved investment in capital spending and over five years, Labour ministers brought about the most rapid reduction in capital expenditure in housing that had ever been seen.

Any analysis of the public expenditure record in the last Labour Government showed the level of investment and public expenditure on housing and other local authority investment slumped dramatically.

Within what the nation could afford, the Government had decided to give a degree of responsibility to local government that they had ever dreamed possible. Local authorities would be able to allocate their priorities for improvement or new building or in aiding the private sector.

Another aspect of the Government's thinking was to work in partnership with local authorities and the private building industry to bring to the people wanting to buy, the widest range and flexibility of schemes to enable them to get their feet on the rung of home ownership. The housing minister had brought to bear the most imaginative range of new initiatives in this area which had been seen since the war.

There was now much more efficient use of resources because of the switch going on in Labour and Tory authorities into improvement. In the year ending September 1980, 83,500 dwellings were renovated by local authorities as compared to 36,000 in 1975-76. Nearly a third of local authority capital spending, by their own choice, now went on improvement.

We have made many changes (he said) to help authorities to improve the quality of their stock at little or no charge to the HIP allocation. Councils are being encouraged to improve and sell. They may retain all the proceeds from sales.

Authorities were taking up homesteading on a wide scale across the country, a good example of private sector cooperation.

He had decided to commission a new English house condition survey to be undertaken on the same pattern as that which took place in 1976.

This had been a difficult year for private house-building, but funds were flowing into the building societies on an encouraging scale. The advice he was getting from the private sector builders was that the signs were that the market was beginning to improve. The estimate he had was that they might expect to see something of the order of 20,000 additional homes completed this year.

During its time in government the Opposition was responsible for presiding over a significant reduction in the proportion of income paid in council house rents. As earnings rose, council house rents rose more slowly.

He could see no justification for subsidies to keep down council rents when those subsidies had to be paid for by other working people who spent up to a quarter of their income buying their own homes.

That was the issue the Opposition ran away from year after year. That was why the housing programmes collapsed under them. He would have no part in it. (Conservative cheers).

The shorthold provisions were intended to move forward from the rigidities of the rent control system which had so diminished the availability of rented accommodation. Now Mr Kaufman was hawking himself around the country giving ever yconceivable deterrent to anyone who had a home that could be let by threatening that security would be restored. As a consequence, the homes would be sold and not let and the people who suffered would be those who had nowhere else to live.

They were seeing in the Labour Party a rigid and doctrinal resistance to any reductions in the level of consumption at whatever price it might have for the ratepayers or consumers in the authorities over which they presided.

They all knew, however, that Labour was in the most desperate difficulty of finding its way forward either to moderate, sensible, practical policies or way out in the dreamy world in which so many of them seemed determined to live their lives.

Mr Kaufman was to have a housing action week in which he intended to picket the Department of the Environment. This samurai of the shadow cabinet was hardly returning to the scenes of his former triumph when he picketed the department where he halved the housing programme in three years. (Conservative cheers.)

Main parties pour scorn on Liberal plan

House of Lords

A majority in the country who would rally to the 10-point economic strategy advocated by the Leader of the Liberal Party (Mr David Steel) might be translated into a majority in Parliament due to present political developments, Lord Banks (L) said when opening a debate on the programme.

Lord Banks said Mr Steel felt there was a need for a widely agreed national economic strategy and the 10-point programme had been prompted by alarm at the effects of the Government's economic strategy, and the concern about the possibility of a reaction against it, which could take the country further towards nationalization of all the means of production, distribution and exchange.

When considering the Government's economic policy they found themselves in a dilemma. They had to decide whether they were going to criticize what the Government said they would do or what the Government had actually done.

The Government said they would cut taxes, reduce the growth of the money supply, reduce the public sector borrowing requirement, cut public expenditure and allow the private sector to expand. In practice they had done the opposite.

It was true that in spite of everything the inflation rate was coming down, but at what expense. The private sector had contracted, output was down, the manufacturing base was reduced and unemployment was up. Hence the need for Mr Steel's alternative strategy.

There should be a modest expansion of the economy, possibly by about £3,000m. Such an expansion could be achieved by reducing the national insurance tax which was a tax on employers, restoring the cuts in social security benefits, and most important, increasing investment in the capital infrastructure of the country.

There should be an immediate three point drop in interest rates. A long-term incomes policy was essential. It would not be a hasty and temporary expedient produced on the brink of disaster but a policy with an institutional framework laid down by Parliament. A system of industrial partnership was an essential part o the incomes policy and there should be a statutory system of employee representation.

He believed there might be a majority in the country who would rally to such an economic strategy With a different voting system the majority would, in an election, secure a majority in the House of Commons. Given present political developments, that majority in Parliament may be achieved with the present unfair and distorting electoral system.

Lord Glenamara (Lab), for the Opposition, said although Mr Steel was one of the most engaging people in politics today, his new deal for Britain did not contribute a single original idea to the debate on Britain's future.

The themes in his programme appeared to have been culled from the Labour manifesto for 1980 which was published a year ago. Mr Steel had fallen for the old view that political managers used to hold, that too much policy was a handicap in winning elections. That was now out of date. Today's situation demanded coherent, well thought out rigorously costed policies and not pious generalities.

The self-righteous assertion that only the Liberals would follow a national strategy was insufferable. Self-righteousness was probably the worst sin in a politician or political party.

Mr Steel's 10 points were totally inadequate in the face of the dark and dangerous situation gathering in Britain. There was nothing about how they would deal with the appalling problem of unemployment. Mr Steel's document was simplistic and naive.

The Opposition agreed with the preamble to the Liberal document that the economy was desperately weak and vulnerable and the Government's monetarist dogma was converting a recession into an outright slump.

Every index, every forecast of every index, every trend of every index, etched another line in the deeply disturbing picture of the country.

Lord Cockfield, Minister of State, Treasury, said he found Mr Steel's document most disappointing. Nowhere did it even mention the greatest scourge of this time—inflation. Unemployment—the tragedy of the time—was mentioned only in passing. The world recession might just as well as not exist for Mr Steel.

What emerged from the document was an almost obsessive belief that a cure for all ills lay in proportional representation. There were powerful philosophical arguments in favour of proportional representation but the one thing in which proportional representaion had no relevance whatever was the solution of the country's economic problems.

There was a considerable intellectual appeal to an incomes policy but experience showed it simply did not work. The apparent short-term gains it offered were paid for with long-term losses.

The Conservative government in 1974 and the Labour government in 1979 were swept away as a result of forces unleashed by the breakdown of their incomes policies.

There was no disagreement that interest rates should be lower and as circumstances permitted the MLR would be reduced. The effect of the proposed increased spending by the NEB, nationalised industries and on energy conservation would be substantial. The effect would be to push up interest rates.

The policies put foward in detail were completely inconsistent with the objectives sought to be achieved.

Unemployment was due to the world recession, inflation, growing uncompetitiveness of British industry and excessive wage increases in 1979-80.

In the 1930s it was said the only thing to fear was fear itself. That was equally true today. The country did face grave problems. If it faced them unflinchingly with determination to succeed it would solve them.

Lord Perry of Walton said most voters would now vote against the policies of both parties because there was nothing in the policies they would want to vote for. Do vote against both extreme right wing and left wing required an upheaval in the political system.

He did not believe that the Liberal Party alone could provoke that upheaval. It required the public to see politicians they admired changing their minds and willing to support a more moderate national strategy.

That is why he had signed the declaration of the Council for Social Democracy.

Yellow phone boxes

The Post Office scheme to paint telephone boxes yellow was described as ridiculous by the Earl of Gowrie, Minister of State for Employment, during questions.

Lord Gridley (C) said that in view of press reports that 77,000 telephone boxes were to be painted yellow instead of red, it would be better to use that money to improve telephone services.

The Earl of Gowrie: I agree. I earnestly implore the Post Office to abandon this ridiculous scheme.

New peer

Lord Benson, formerly Sir Henry Alexander Benson, adviser to the Governor of the Bank of England since 1975, chairman of the Royal Commission on Legal Services since 1976 and a trustee, The Times Trust, since 1967, was introduced.

EEC priority the fight against unemployment

European Parliament

Luxembourg

Identification of the major medium-term economic and social problems facing EEC member states was an essential background against which priorities for action at Community level could be formulated, Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the EEC Commission, said when he outlined its work programme for 1981.

He said the approaches of governments to the problems of inflation, low growth and unemployment had certain factors in common. All had given priority to reducing inflation, and all had perceived the advantages of improving the coordination of attempts to promote growth. They were all seeking ways to reduce unemployment and were endeavouring to reduce energy problems.

However, great economic and social disparities continued to exist between member states and within them.

From the political point of view, it was clear that détente had been attacked to such a point that they were now looking for new words to replace this term. The invasion of Afghanistan had been a new step and there was the Iraq-Iran war, together with the Palestinian and Lebanon problems.

Europe was at the centre of tension between East and West and had a responsible role to play.

Economically, they were at the centre of a structural crisis. There were worries about returns to protectionism. Any restructuring of world trade would be a terrible blow for the EEC and its member states. They were in a particularly weak position because they had to import most of their energy and raw materials.

The Community had become a rare peace haven. It was a crossroads for trade and exchange. Together, nobody could forget their role.

Some countries in the EEC had doubts about its effectiveness and wanted more flexible forms of association. What they were really wanting was a weaker and more cowardly Community. The picture of Europe was misrepresented in Europe and badly understood within it.

The ambition of the Commission was to prove to every citizen that it was concerned by the problems whether they were employment, social policy, industry, agriculture, fisheries or in the professions. Each European should be able to make criticism, but there should no longer be the pretext of saying he did not know or understand the problems.

There was no alternative to Europe. They were not trying to start up from zero because if was 30 years since the European ideal was started. The task of the Commission was to revive Europe and increase its membership.

They must try and find new ways of facing up to the challenges of the 1980s while at the same time remaining true to the treaties. There must be adaptation of existing policies to maintain what they had achieved. They must not remain immobile but identify precisely the areas where action was necessary.

Blind harmonization at any cost could often be detrimental and have an opposite effect to what was required.

Europe must reestablish confidence by dealing more directly than in the past with the problems that confronted their citizens.

Since last year, the Commission had been looking at the budgetary problem which had threatened the cohesion of the Community.

They hoped to rejuvenate the agricultural policy while guaranteeing the incomes of the eight million farmers involved in this vital sector. Proposals for the new farm year were being worked on and discussed. He could not quote any figures, but he imagined the proposals would in no way prejudice the mandate the Commission had been given.

The second major area of attention was to adapt the EEC's industrial production to the new requirements of the age. Non-intervention by Europe could have dramatic consequences in the political and economic context. Strengthening industrial competitiveness was one of the conditions for reestablishment of full employment in Europe.

With so many young people unemployed, they must not sacrifice their potential, this was the Europe of tomorrow. Young people would be faced with the choice of whether to build Europe or destroy it.

On energy, they could not say at this stage that Europe had made sufficient progress. There had been a number of measures to improve the supply situation, but in view of recent developments in the Gulf that had created problems, they must go even further.

This would be one of the priorities of the new commission. Energy strategy must be coherent, or they would not be successful. They must have more energy saving, nuclear safety and the development of new technologies.

Community policies would fail if they were not supported by the political institutions. They could not afford the luxury of an institutional crisis.

He said this year would again be a year of high unemployment and substantial structural change which would involve social tensions.

The first priority for the Community's social and economic policies would be to work towards consensus among all those concerned with employment on the development of a coherent economic and social strategy for fighting unemployment.

Report on women adopted

The resolution in the report by Mrs Johanna Maij-Weggen (Netherlands EPP) about women's rights in the EEC, debated on Tuesday, was adopted by Parliament after controversy about the paragraph on abortion.

The paragraph pointed out clandestine abortions remained the rule in countries where there was no legislation on the voluntary termination of pregnancy. In countries where there was legislation the specialized hospital facilities were inadequate. The report noted that legislation differences meant women often had to travel to other countries to get abortions.

The Commission was asked to press the Council of Ministers for decisions at national level so as to obviate the need for journeys of this type which made any form of social aid impossible and led to unacceptable commercialism. The report said abortion must be treated as a last resort.

Opposition came from German and Irish Christian Democrats members who said abortion was murder and the paragraph was an insult to the dignity of the womanhood of Europe.

SPORT

Cricket

Kapil Dev recovers his magic and Australia are hustled to defeat

From Dilip Rao
Melbourne, Feb 11

For India the capture of the remaining seven Australian wickets to bring an unexpected triumph in the third Test match was as easy as undoing a zip fastener. Australia, starting the day at 24 for three and needing another 119 runs to win and clinch a three-test series, in which they led 1—0, were hustled out within 137 minutes for 83, their lowest score against India.

It was on a pitch marked by gruesome cracks that Australia batted last—from choice—but unquestionably they hastened their doom with batting that did the baggy green cap no credit at all. Chappell himself admitted: " We were lacking in the areas of application and determination. "

The only batsman to offer any sort of resistance was Walters, who batted 71 minutes for an unbeaten 18. *He was never uncomfortable* and gave an impressive display of the skill required to combat accurate bowling on a bad pitch; but he never strove to impose his authority and watched his less able partners go to their ruin.

Disaster struck Australia from an unexpected direction. They had foreseen the spin of Doshi as the main threat; instead they were laid low by the fast medium bowling of Kapil Dev, who took five wickets for 28 in an unbroken spell of 16.4 overs. Declared to be so badly injured that he batted with a runner yesterday and was unable to open the bowling, he seemed to have made a remarkable recovery, the Australians could have been forgiven if they believed that magic was being practised in the Indian dressing room. Gavaskar believes that Kapil Dev's return and his match-winning feat were atonement for the " diabolical shot " he was out to yesterday.

Kapil Dev learnt from watching Lillee bowl in this match. He bowled straight and to a length and rewards were easily gained. For ready evidence Yardley, the nightwatchman, Marsh and Lillee were all clean bowled; Higgs, the last man, was leg before; and Border was caught behind playing the finest of leg glances.

Whatever miracle restored Kapil Dev to fitness did not work on poor Doshi, an unsung hero of the Indian triumph. Except that he suffered increasing pain with each passing day of the Test match, he did not know that the yorker from Laughlin that struck his foot 10 days ago at Geelong had left a fracture in his left instep. It was revealed by an X-ray examination after the match. Doshi struck the first blow of the day, exploiting Hughes's apparent distaste for dominating bowlers.

By winning this Test match and levelling the series, Gavaskar's side, which has had a conspicuously undistinguished tour, became the first Indian team not to lose a rubber in Australia.

INDIA: First innings, 237 (G. R. Viswanath 114; D. K. Lillee 4 for 65). Second innings, 324 (C. P. S. Chauhan 85; S. M. Gavaskar 70; Lillee 4 for 104).

AUSTRALIA: First innings, 419 (A. R. Border 124, K. D. Walters 78, G. S. Chappell 76).

Second Innings

J. Dyson, c Kirmani, b Ghavri	3
G. M. Wood, st Kirmani, b Doshi	10
*G. S. Chappell, b Ghavri	0
K. J. Hughes, b Doshi	16
B. Yardley, b Kapil Dev	7
A. R. Border, c Kirmani, b Kapil Dev	9
K. D. Walters, not out	18
†R. W. Marsh, b Kapil Dev	3
D. K. Lillee, b Kapil Dev	4
L. S. Pascoe, run out	6
J. D. Higgs, l-b-w, b Kapil Dev	0
Extras (lb 5, nb 2)	7
Total	83

FALL OF WICKETS: 1—11, 2—11, 3—18, 4—40, 5—50, 6—55, 7—61, 8—69, 9—79, 10—83.

BOWLING: Ghavri, 8—1—10—2; Patil, 2—0—5—0; Kapil Dev, 16.4—4—28—5; Doshi, 22—9—33—2.

ST GEORGES, Grenada: Shell Shield: Combined Islands 196 and 293 for 8 dec; Guyana 96 and 228. Combined Islands won by 165 runs.

NEW DELHI: Women's match: South Zone 148 for 5 dec and 108 for 7 dec. England 155 for 8 dec and 40 for 1.

England nightmares take new form

From John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent
Port of Spain, Feb 11

There was what could be called a high-level conference here today to consider the ineffectiveness of the English spinners against Trinidad yesterday on a pitch which they had been expected to turn to their advantage. If England are to have any chance of beating West Indies in the first Test match starting on the same ground on Friday, something better will almost certainly be needed from Emburey, Miller and Willey, assuming all three play.

Willey was the most successful of the three against Trinidad. Emburey's nought for 71 was disappointing, mainly because of the lack of variety in his bowling. Rather than pushing the odd ball through, or switching his line to *off stump and outside*, he kept wheeling away at middle and leg, sometimes to seven men on the onside. A telephone call to Titmus or Laker would not have been wasted today because it is in this match, on a turning pitch, that England have their best chance of winning—in theory at any rate.

If the three spin bowlers play, as they probably will, the three places left open to discussion are between Old and Stevenson, Downton and Bairstow, and Butcher, Rose and Gatting. Because of his much greater experience and proven ability to bowl a good line Old looks a better bet than Stevenson. He would also be more likely to swing the ball on a ground where swing can be a telling factor. Old's opening partner would be Dilley, Willis being unfit.

If, this time, Downton is preferred to Bairstow, who has recovered from athlete's foot, it will be because he might be less likely to make a crucial mistake against spin; it is not an easy pitch on which to keep wicket and Downton came to know it in the game with Trinidad. Although Bairstow's competitive spirit will always be an asset, the three stumping chances he has had on the tour off the spin bowlers have gone begging. This competition for the wicketkeeping place will keep them both on their mettle.

For the runs that he scored against West Indies in last summer's Test matches Rose was *earmarked for the No 3 position*; but nothing has gone right for him here. The pity of leaving out Butcher would be that he is the best fielder in the side besides being capable of the most brilliant strokeplay. In his one first-class match he scored 42 and 20 not out, and he played better than anyone in the first of the one-day matches in St Vincent. Held against him are the risks he takes outside the off stump, though if that is to keep him out now, why pick him in the first place?

Gatting's one first-class innings of the tour was a very good 93; he is sounder than Butcher and made scores of 33, 56 and 48 against West Indies last summer. With Rose out of sorts I would prefer to see Gatting or Butcher in the side, with no particular preference for either. Miller, it seems, is to bat at No 3, unless the innings gets a good start.

It is four weeks ago tomorrow that the party landed in the West Indies. Even without any rain they would have played in that time only 13 days' cricket. As it is, they have played 10, and four of those were interfered with by the weather. This has meant that partly through bad planning and partly through ill-luck there has been far too much hanging about; as an example of this Gatting's one first-class innings was on January 23 and 24.

It is not that the team have had too little time in which to get acclimatized but that, for a variety of reasons, they have had too little time in the middle. There is no substitute for match practice, especially in the West Indies where a touring team tend to be left to devise for themselves the usual practice facilities.

It is nothing new, though, for England (or MCC as they have been until now) to go into the first Test match out here underprepared. In 1947-48, having been tossed about in an empty banana boat on the way from England, they played a Test 15 days after landing in Barbados, by when they had had only two four-day matches. In 1959-60, also after sailing out, there were only nine days' play—two of them against Barbados Colts—before the first Test, in which England scored 482 *batting first*; *in 1967-68 England* began the Test series by scoring 568, also after only two first-class matches; on the last tour, seven years ago, there were eight full days' play before the first Test in Trinidad.

What makes this present tour different is not the shortage of the players' preparation so much as what they are preparing for. Only in 1959-60 and 1967-68, since the war, have England in the West Indies had to face two genuinely fast bowlers. In 1973-74 Boyce and Julien opened the West Indian bowling; in 1947-48 it was Prior Jones and Berkeley Gaskin. It is only necessary to compare this with the West Indian attack of today, comprising four fast *bowlers, all highly trained* and greatly experienced and calculatingly aggressive, to know why the batsmen in Botham's side are especially concerned about their lack of practice.

Even if West Indies make do with three of their four fast bowlers on Friday as they well may, it will still be another game from that in which Gomez and Kentish used to take the new ball against Hutton and Watson in 1953-54. The nightmares then involved Valentine and Ramadhin.

County players move indoors

A new indoor six-a-side county cricket tournament, to be sponsored by the motor company, Wadham Stringer, for £150,000 over the next three years, is to be staged at the Brighton Centre on Sunday, April 26. It will involve Sussex, Kent, Middlesex and a team of players from other counties, captained by Roger Knight, of Surrey.

Knight's team will include one player from Nottinghamshire, Hampshire, Northamptonshire, Somerset and Worcestershire. The event is part of the benefit programme of the Sussex bowler, John Spencer.

Rugby Union

Team that lasts longer is stronger

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

Loughborough 13 Swansea 6

Scoring all their points down breeze and slope in the second half and waxing stronger the longer the contest lasted, Loughborough had their opponents in a vice-like grip at Clifton yesterday. They won more conclusively than the score suggests by a goal, a penalty goal and a try to two penalty goals, and so qualified for another UAU final. Their opponents at Twickenham on March 4 will not be known until next Wednesday, as the second semi-final match between Manchester and Durham at Headingley yesterday, was postponed.

It was a pleasure, in the first period, to see two sides wholly *committed to 15-man rugby, in* spite of a pitch that was tacky everywhere and heavy in the central area. Swansea then had possession enough through the pressure exerted by their scrummage, and it is just conceivable that things might have turned out differently if their full back, Wyatt, had been able to land two kickable penalties in the opening minutes. Both attempts glanced off the near post.

Swansea would have had a try by Mason, their flank forward, if the last pass in a promising short side movement from a scrummage had not gone astray just before the interval. However, they got three points for offside instead, Mr Longley having played the advantage law on one of several occasions when his deft control of affairs helped to keep the game flowing. Swansea turned round with the penalty Wyatt kicked then, and one he had landed after the first 10 minutes. It was not enough.

In the second half, Loughborough ruled the lineout and their flanker, Pegler, *captain* of England's 19 Group side last *season*, made his presence more notably felt. The Swansea defence survived a number of hairy moments, but midway through the third quarter it had no answer to the damage caused by a poor touch kick by the centre, Davies, outside their 22. This was charged down and *Thompson* snatched his chance on the Loughborough left to run in unimpeded for a try.

The stand-off, Boyd, now conducting affairs with a balanced appraisal of what was required as the ball and pitch grew stickier, had suffered the same fate as Wyatt when going for a penalty in the first half. His attempted conversion of the try also hit a post. Minutes later, however, he succeeded when Swansea fell offside at a ruck in front of their posts.

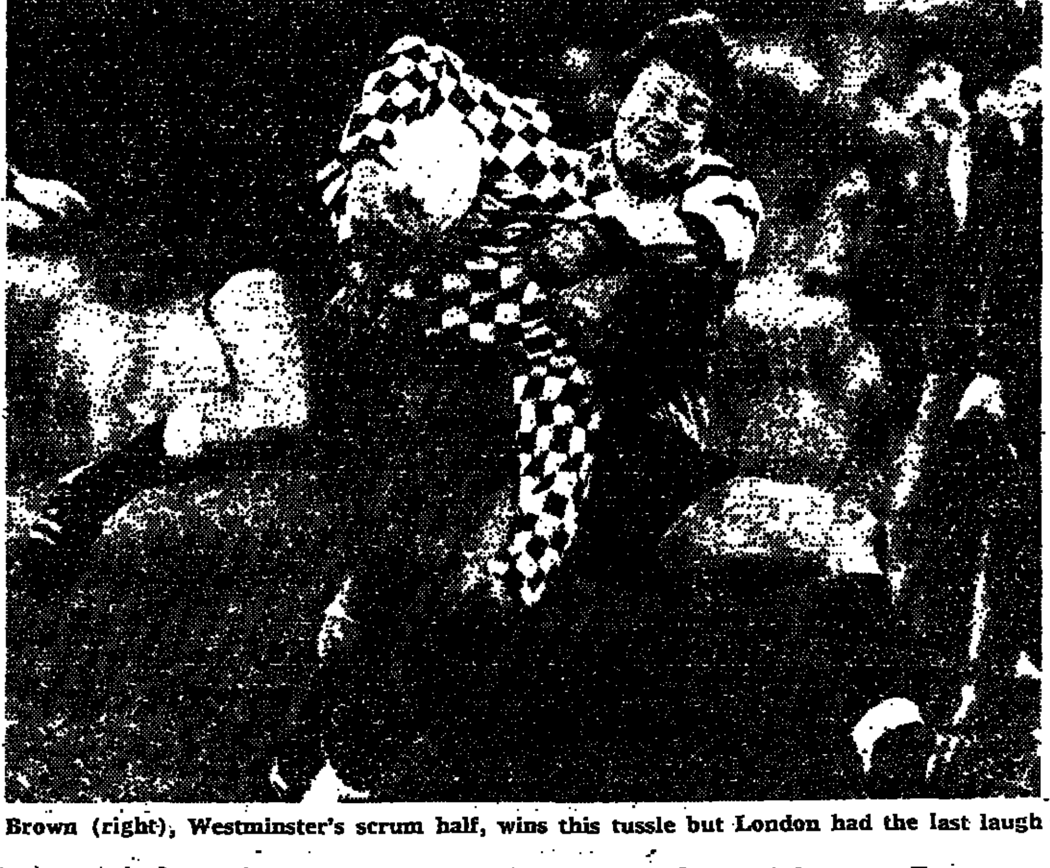
Swansea were now pinned in their own territory. Loughborough's forwards added to their lineout advantage some impressive work in the loose. Their centres looked to have that extra pace and finesse.

A rousing piece of 15-man rugby settled matters for Loughborough and their cheerful supporters, who far outnumbered those from Wales. Thwarted on the right, Loughborough spun loose ball the other way, and Barnard came through on the outside of his line to score the second try.

LOUGHBOROUGH UNIVERSITY: A. Barnard; K. MacDonald, S. Grabham (captain), A. Thompson, B. McLaughlin; M. Boyd, I. Wright; D. Davies, M. Duffelin, C. Collins, S. Hill, G. Stoke, D. Pegler, D. O'Callaghan, S. Bain.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, SWANSEA: M. Wyatt; D. Harrison, A. Davies, G. Hopkins (captain), R. Montell; D. Cushion, M. Starkey; J. Grice, M. Roberts, G. Spurlock, A. Chamberlain, K. Thompson, M. Mason, S. Stevens, T. Collins.

Referee: M. Longley (Gloucestershire).



Brown (right), Westminster's scrum half, wins this tussle but London had the last laugh

Better late than never for London

By Gordon Allan

London 6 Westminster 3

The London scored twice in the last 15 minutes to win their Hospitals Cup semi-final round match against Westminster, last year's runners-up, at Richmond yesterday by a penalty goal and a dropped goal to a penalty goal. In the final on March 11 they will play either the holders, St Mary's, or St Bartholomew's, who fight it out next Wednesday.

Macaulay, the Harlequins stand-off, kicked a penalty for Westminster shortly before half time. He also missed a couple, one long, the other comparatively easy—as easy, in fact as the one he did kick. For some while it seemed that these misses would not matter, because the London rarely looked like scoring. Westminster were winning more and better possession at that stage, and even if they could not translate it into points, at least it enabled them to control the run of the game.

Then with the end in sight, a Westminster forward failed to release the ball at a ruck on his own 22 and Allen kicked a penalty with the utmost conviction. *A few minutes later the* London, from well inside their own half, backed the ball down the left wing, a ruck formed near touch in the Westminster 22 and when the ball came out to Condon he took one look at the posts over the heads of a row of forwards and dropped a goal.

The London seemed to last the pace slightly better than Westminster and not only because their winning effort was made when time was short. Westminster had a big territorial advantage in the first half and squandered it. Twice they forced scrummages near the London line but gave away penalties. Perhaps Macaulay kicked a little too much. Pritchard ran dangerously in the centre now and again and deserved more support.

Condon kicked a lot, too, for the London and in defence this helped them enormously when they were under the hammer in *the first half. In the second,* the London backs began to show what they were capable of. The best move of the match involved Allen and Holman in a smart one-two down the right wing with Holman being pushed into touch a metre from the corner. In every way the London kept their best until the last.

LONDON HOSPITALS: M. Benson; S. Allen, C. Lammiman, R. Holman, N. Gibbons; H. Condon, P. Roderick; T. Briggs, D. Gussen, A. Murday, I. Basnett, R. Baker, T. Lewis, A. Taylor, R. Hughes.

WESTMINSTER HOSPITAL: S. Gwyther; A. Bunting, P. Asquith, P. Pritchard, C. Hammersley; J. Macaulay, J. Brown; C. Wilson, V. Nicholls, A. Mason, R. Thomas, R. Bolton, P. Davies, R. McNabb, A. Stephenson.

Referee: G. Crawford (London).

Occasion for low skills and high tempers

By Alan Gibson

North Staffs 3 Wales 9

It was a dry, mostly clear, cold afternoon. As I travelled to Worcester, where this semi-final round match in the British Polytechnics championship was played, I noticed the picture of Tewkesbury Abbey, sunlit against the snow-crowned Malverns. Some early lambs were skipping about.

That, however, was almost the end of the fun. It was a match of low skills and, occasionally, high tempers. Wales won by a penalty goal, a penalty try and a conversion to a penalty goal. There was no doubt, by the end, that they had deserved to win, but North Staffordshire should never have given them the chance.

On a muddy, tufty pitch it was always likely that kicks would settle it. *North Staffordshire* had much the better of the first half, but Lowden, who has played for Sale and Cumbria and is usually an excellent kicker, missed with three penalties and three drops at goal. Williams had taken the lead for Wales with a penalty—about the only time Wales had been in the North Staffordshire half—when Lowden kicked his only successful one. So it was 3—3 at half time, and the North Staffordshire captain, Ward, had gone off with a heavily cut head after a bad case of trampling.

His replacement, Tunnicliffe, played well enough, but the side thenceforth lacked organization, and Wales, having come through much tough defence, began to perk up and look around.

They forced a series of scrums near the line. Williams, the scrum-half—who had a good game—made a break and a pass to Angell, *who would have scored but for* an obstruction. That led to the penalty try, which Williams himself converted. For a few minutes North Staffordshire attacked again and we *glimpsed* what might have been done by their backs, especially Forrester; but Wales were never in serious trouble and were going forward again at the close.

The Polytechnic championship is a good idea, but I wonder if they are wise to play their semi-finals on neutral ground; neither the county championship nor the John Player Cup does. The occasion had a remote, primitive air. The Worcester ground is miles out of the city; there can hardly have been 50 spectators there; the touch-judges had no flags; there was not a bucket of water available when a player was injured; and the Welsh wore no numbers—not that it mattered—because there were no programmes. You would not have thought it beyond the capacity of places devoted to technical learning to run off a few cyclostyle sheets.

However, when I got back to Shrub Hill station, there were beautiful daffodils in the refreshment room, and again spring did not seem so far away.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE: H. Thomas; R. Clifton, E. Forrester, A. Parker, I. Cobden; S. Lowden, S. *Robson*; P. Ward (*captain*), P. Finck, D. Vickery, K. Williams, R. Gibbons, S. Turner, M. Davis, R. Gregory (rep. J. Tunnicliffe).

WALES: G. Webb; A. Yeandle, L. Jones, P. Elliott, J. Harries; R. Angell, C. Williams; D. George, S. Benger, R. Inkleton, R. Hare, A. James, P. Morgan, J. Morgan, A. Barker (captain).

Referee: I. Brown (Worcester).

UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-final round: Loughborough 13, Swansea 6; Manchester v Durham, postponed.

BRITISH POLYTECHNIC CUP: Semi-final round: Wales 9, North Staffordshire 3; Bristol 25, Kent 6.

CLUB MATCHES: Bath 29, Royal Air Force 6; Cardiff 9, Neath 6; Cambridge University 13, Rosslyn Park 28; Glamorgan Wanderers 16, South Glamorgan Institute 7; Oxford University 10, Royal Navy 20; Swansea 21, Pontypridd 0.

A case for extensive Welsh changes

By Peter West

Wales this season have found themselves thrashed by New Zealand, uneasy winners over England, and conclusive losers to a Scottish XV which played with far greater conviction. In those three internationals, moreover, Wales have scored just one try—and that was by way of an English gift. No wonder, then, as the centenary season unfolds that it is seen in the valleys as being less of a celebration, more of a wake.

There is a call for some distinguished Welsh heads to roll, *including those of J. P. R.* Williams and the captain, Steve Fenwick, who between them own 85 caps. Other notable candidates might be David Richards, who recently has looked a shadow of the centre who brought so much sparkle to the midfield play when he came into the team in 1979, and Geoff Wheel, a lock with 28 caps who looks to have lost steam. There are problems at loose forward, where Rhodri Lewis alone emerged from the Scottish match with reputation intact, and the lineout, where Welsh limitations were exposed by the Scots.

To say that the Welsh selectors face a dilemma when choosing their side to play Ireland at Cardiff on Saturday week may be something of an understatement. They have decided not to announce the team until Sunday, thereby " keeping their options fully open ". Are they, with hands on the guillotine, to build for the future, when there is little obvious younger talent about, or are they to take more modest measures, preserving a new balance between fresh faces and experienced ones, to salvage what they can from the present championship?

The Welsh visit to Paris in *March is now viewed in the principality* with more apprehension than usual. But first they will want to beat Ireland, who still have a triple crown in their sights, in spite of their disappointing loss to the French, and who ought now to be capable of winning in Cardiff for the first time since 1967. Is this, then, the right time to drop Williams? I doubt it, even though he has lost pace. We hear no talk of Wales having a better player.

If the selectors can steel themselves to drop their captain in the centenary season, there is a strong case for them going the whole hog and changing both centres. On the ground of strength, experience and commitment, Ray Gravell, who played in all four Lions internationals in South Africa, must fancy his chance of a first cap for his country since 1979. His young Llanelli colleague, Peter Morgan, is said to be playing well, too.

There is another option open to the selectors. They could move the Newport wing, Robert Ackerman, into the middle (a position thought by some pundits to be his best one). In that case, Donovan, of Maesteg, or the dashing Kevin *Williams (Leicester)* could be in the running on a flank.

The recall of Allan Martin, who was 33 yesterday, might be seen as a retrograde step. But he remains by some way the most accomplished middle of the line jumper in Wales. Another cap would have him equalling the record of 32 for a Welsh lock, jointly held by Brian Price and Rees Stephens.

With Terry Holmes still out of action, some observers would like to see Mark Douglas, who so impressed the All Blacks in his game for Llanelli, pitched straight in it at scrum half. That would be tough on Brynmor Williams.

Tennis

Britain make bold break with the past

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

Christopher Mottram, Jonathan Smith, Andrew Jarrett and Richard Lewis, who are first, third, sixth and seventh in the national rankings, have been chosen to represent Britain against Italy in the first round of the Davis Cup *competition. The tie will be played* indoors at the Brighton Centre from March 6 to 8.

Paul Hutchins, the national team manager, had to take a chance one way or another because Mottram was the only player whose choice was automatic. Mr Hutchins could have called on such experienced players as the brothers David and John Lloyd, neither of whom did enough last year to earn a national ranking, or John Feaver and Robin Drysdale, who can no longer be regarded as tempting long-term investments.

Instead Mr Hutchins has decided to keep faith with the team twice beaten by Czechoslovakia, home and away, in a play-off for fifth and sixth places *in the first division of the European Indoor Championship* for the King's Cup. Czechoslovakia lacked the services of Ivan Lendl and Tomas Smid and, even so, were good enough to win both doubles at the expense of Jarrett and Smith. But Mr Hutchins has been impressed by Lewis's capacity to win singles (five out of seven in the King's Cup period) and has therefore recalled him to the Davis Cup team.

Equally Mr Hutchins feels that Jarrett and Smith, who have no Davis Cup experience, may become a better doubles team if tested in the hottest competitive fires. It is possible, too, that one or the other may be asked to partner Mottram—just as it is possible, if *at present unlikely, that Smith* may be preferred to Lewis in the second singles place.

It is unfortunate that John Lloyd has declined so much, so prematurely, as a competitor; that David Lloyd no longer plays enough or achieves enough to justify his retention as deuce court doubles player; and that Mark Cox understandably, reckons he is now too old to serve the team as more than a combination of practice partner and organizer, strategist, and father-confessor.

The time was ripe to make a bold break with the past rather than living on memories. Now it is up to Lewis, Jarrett and Smith to justify the chance Mr Hutchins has taken with them. He has taken a calculated risk but, in view of the restricted options available, it could hardly be described as a gamble.

OAKLAND: Women's singles, third round (US unless stated): S. Barker (GB) beat K. Sands, 6—4, 4—6, 6—4; V. Wade (GB) beat B. Jordan, 6—3, 6—2; B. Norton beat K. Jordan, 6—4, 2—6, 6—2; W. Turnbull (Australia) beat K. Latham, 6—1, 6—3; I. Villiger (Switzerland) beat H. Eisterlehner (WG), 6—2, 6—3; N. Bohm (Sweden) beat S. Margolin, 6—3, 6—1.

Table tennis

Douglas spurs England to thrilling win over Swedes

England maintained their unbeaten run and stayed top of the European Super League table with a tense and thrilling 4—3 win over Sweden here today. It was their sixth in a row and all should depend on the final encounter against the holders Hungary at Ipswich on March 12.

With the European champion John Hilton again in disappointing form, losing to Stellan Bengtsson and Ulf Carlsson in straight games, the burden fell even more heavily than usual on the English open champion Desmond Douglas—and he did not fail. His 21—18, 21—19 win over Bengtsson, the former world and European champion, was the one that brought England level at 1—1 and made victory a possibility.

His 21—18, 16—21, 22—20, win over the 19-year-old European No 10, Carlsson clinched it. But how England sweated while he did it. He was behind 13—17 and 16—19 in the decider, struggled back manfully by getting his forehand loop into the rally early on, and then almost unbelievably, saw a match point at 20—19 disappear from an edge.

On the next point he defended desperately, a great rarity for Douglas, and then won it with a neat counterattacking forehand that suddenly silenced a crowd that had grown more and more partisan.

The success was all the more dramatic as earlier both Douglas and England's other No 1, Jill Hammersley, had spent much of the day in bed with stomach upsets, gained at the weekend during the European top 12 competition at Hungary. Although Mrs Hammersley won the competition she was sick just before the match and what had seemed England's most certain success suddenly became anything but a certainty. Mrs *Hammersley looked ashen and* sweated and battled as hard as ever, but she needed to save a game point before winning 23—21, 21—10 over the aggressive young Marie Lindblad.

That put England 2—1 up, but Douglas and Paul Day, the former English closed champion, let slip a lead of a game and 17—15 in the men's doubles and lost it to 22—20, 17—21, 16—21 to Bengtsson and Carlsson. When Linda Jarvis teamed up with Douglas in the mixed doubles, however, they scored the important 21—15, 19—21, 21—13, win over Bengtsson and Miss Lindblad that created a 3—2 lead.

Carlsson had calmly clinched the *European title for Sweden's men's team in Berne last year, but this* time he clearly felt the pressure a great deal more

RESULTS (English first): J. Hilton lost to U. Carlsson, 21—13, 21—19; D. Douglas beat S. Bengtsson, 21—18, 21—19; J. Hammersley beat M. Lindblad, 23—21, 21—10; Douglas and P. Day lost to Bengtsson and Carlsson, 20—22, 21—17, 21—16; Douglas and L. Jarvis beat Bengtsson and Lindblad, 21—15, 19—21, 21—13; Douglas beat Carlsson, 21—18, 16—21, 22—21; Hilton lost to Bengtsson, 21—10, 21—11.

Golf

Tshabalala leads with a 65

From Eric Marsden
Johannesburg, Feb 11

South Africa's leading black golfer, Vincent Tshabalala, of Soweto, outplayed his white compatriots and some notable foreign visitors at the Milnerton Club in Cape Town today to lead the South African Masters Tournament with a first round of 65. Tshabalala, aged 39, whose last big win was in the 1976 French Open, had seven birdies, the last on the 18th green, when he played a bunker shot to within inches of the pin. It was his lowest score as a professional.

He was seven strokes ahead of the defending champion, Gary Player, but he will be hard pressed to hold his lead. Tony Johnstone, of Zimbabwe, who now lives in Durban, and Robbie Stewart, of Johannesburg's Kensington Club, are on 66. A further stroke behind are Warren Humphreys, of Britain, and Dennis Watson.

Mark McNulty, who almost beat Lee Trevino at Sun City last week, and Dale Hayes are among four on 68. Hayes shocked South African golfers before teeing off by announcing that he intends to retire at 28 to become a club professional, because he is tired of constant travel and having visa problems

In spite of this close struggle for the lead, only 20 of the 97 competitors beat the par of 72. They included Nigel Burch, of Britain. Another Briton, Gary Birch, had his suspension from the sunshine circuit lifted last night. Birch had been suspended and fined £55 for his behaviour during last weeks' Sun City classic, in which he was accused of upsetting fellow-players, officials and sponsors. His apology was accepted and he was restored to the circuit.

LEADING SCORES: 65, V. Tshabalala; 66, A. Johnstone, R. Stewart; 67, W. Humphreys (GB), D. Watson; 68, J. Fourie, M. McNulty, T. Claassens, D. Hayes; 69, G. Birch (GB), N. Price, B. Babus; 70, C. Moody (GB); 71, I. Chowglay, P. Barber, K. Waters (GB), J. O'Leary (Ireland), P. Morley (GB), B. Langer (West Germany), I. Mosey (GB); 72, A. Chandler (GB), R. Brows, T. Vargo (US), J. Bland, H. Baiocchi, C. Lorenson, R. Mogorrane, R. Sharrock (GB), D. Williams (GB), D. Roberts, B. Lincoln, T. Britz, G. Harvey, G. Player, A. Henning; 73, T. Gledeon (GB), D. Bruyns, P. Carrigill (GB), G. Williams, E. Gruenewald, D. Stratton, L. van Niekerk, P. van Zyl, J. Hawkes; 74, D. Naidoo, M. Louw, V. Baker, M. Redding (US), D. Suddards, R. Charles (NZ), R. Rafferty (Ireland).

Skiing

Stenmark moves nearer to a record

Voss, Norway, Feb 11.—Ingemar Stenmark, of Sweden, scored his fifth successive World Cup victory today, winning the Voss giant slalom after finishing first in both runs. Stenmark's combined time was 3 minutes 08.60 seconds, more than 1.5sec clear of Alexander Zhirov of the Soviet Union, who was second. Zhirov, who clocked 3min 10.09sec, was a second slower than Stenmark in the second run.

Bruno Noeckler, of Italy, was third and the American Phil Mahre, Stenmark's main challenger for the World Cup title, sixth. Stenmark said he was surprised by the ease with which he captured his ninth World Cup victory of the season and the sixty-first of his outstanding career. " I am not really on top of my form," he said. " I felt tired and my legs were not very strong, so I did not expect to beat Zhirov by such a large margin." Stenmark has been suffering from a cold.

Stenmark now moves on to Aare in his native Sweden at the weekend for a slalom and giant slalom, which, if he wins both, will give him a record for consecutive World Cup victories. But he said that the record would mean little to him. " I am more interested in scoring five more victories this season, which would give me a victory average of 50 per cent for my whole career."

Hans Enn, of Austria, third in the World Cup standings, was taken to hospital with a broken foot after a fall as he warmed up for today's event. His compatriot, Christian Orlainsky, who took the only giant slalom Stenmark has not won this season, was also injured *in* a fall. Today's event took place in clear, mild weather.

Top women on strike: The world's top women skiers went on strike in Maribor, Yugoslavia, today when they refused to take part in a slalom, counting towards the World Cup. The skiers were unhappy about the poor condition of the slalom course, although World Cup organizers had given the go-ahead.

Matters almost came to a head on Tuesday when the World Cup competitors threatened not to take part in a giant slalom because the course had only a thin layer of icy snow. They took part in the end and the World Cup leader, Marie-Thérèse Nadig, of Switzerland, won. Heavy overnight rain, however, worsened conditions and the skiers decided to strike for the day.

RESULTS: 1, I. Stenmark (Sweden), 3min 08.66sec; 2, A. Zhirov (USSR), 3:10.09; 3, B. Noeckler (Italy), 3:11.42; 4, J. Gaspoz (Switzerland), 3:11.7; 5, J. Halsnes (Norway), 3:12.08; 6, P. Mahre (US), 3:12.21; 7, A. Giorgi (Italy), 3:12.65; 8, W. Ortner (Austria), 3:12.82; 9, H. Spies (Austria), 3:12.84; 10, J. Luethy (Switzerland), 3:13.13.

OVERALL: 1, Stenmark, 260 pts; 2, Mahre, 192; 3, P. Mueller (Switzerland), 140; 4, S. Mahre (US), 107; 5, S. Podborski (Canada), H. Weirather (Austria), B. Krizaj (Yugoslavia), C. Orlainsky (Austria), 105; 9, A. Wenzel (Liechtenstein), 98; 10, H. Enn (Austria), 95.—Reuter and Agence France-Presse.

Hockey

Oxford need to improve their striking power

By Sydney Friskin

Oxford University 0 Guildford 0

Oxford University, having picked their hockey side to meet Cambridge at Lords on February 24, tried their strength against Guildford in this London League match at the Parks yesterday. A draw was a good result for Oxford but they were lucky to survive a *period of sustained pressure by* Guildford in the second half.

The talking point of the match was a disallowed goal, which would have sealed it in favour of Guildford. Five minutes before the end Haddock in the Oxford goal, made a great save from Carley off a short corner and in the scramble which followed, Peet pushed the ball into goal. The umpire, despite protests from some Guildford players, stuck to his guns, explaining afterwards that he had penalised the attacking side for a foot infringement.

Three points for a win would have put Guildford alongside Richmond in third position with a percentage of 75; but the one point earned from a draw pushed them down to fifth place with a percentage of 69.44, behind Spencer.

The mathematical complications of the game probably meant little to Oxford, who are comfortably placed in the middle of the table. What they need to worry about is their lack of striking power.

Oxford's link men, Precious and Westcott, did most of their approach work and too much seemed to be expected of them. Gordon was solid and reliable at the back and Haddock had another superb game in goal. So did Wright his opposite number.

Guildford ought to have won the match having begun the second half with as fine a piece of hockey as one could have expected at this level. Francis on the left, started the move which gained momentum with a lovely pick up by Schweitzer and a through pass to Jeans, who was well tackled by Gordon on the point of scoring. Yet in the dying seconds Oxford could have won the match from a long corner, Westcott's strong hit having been well saved by Wright.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: *N. Haddock (St Edward's and St Edmund Hall); J. Gordon (Kingston GS and Lincoln); *A. Jenns (Tonbridge and Brasenose); *R. Luddington (KCS Wimbledon and St Edmund Hall), *P. Kunlebe (Michaelhouse Natal and University, captain), *M. Precious (Scarborough College and University), *R. S. Tanner (Hastings GS and Lincoln), *D. C. Westcott (Cranleigh and Brasenose), S. P. Shrimpton (St George's Weybridge and Trinity), H. Blackett (St Edward's, and Christ Church), (Sub: C. Lawless, St Edward's and Christ Church), C. Stirling (Wellington and St Peter's).

GUILDFORD: R. Wright; I. Carley, N. Taylor, M. D. Gallimore, I. Pink (captain), C. Booker, A. Jeans, Schweitzer, G. N. Francis, C. Cottrell, B. Peet.

Umpires: T. E. Jones (Southern Counties) and D. Hopkins (Midlands).

*A Blue

LONDON LEAGUE: Old Kingstonians 2, Cambridge University 3; Oxford University 0, Guildford 0.

UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-final round: Loughborough 1, Exeter 0 (aet); Manchester 2, Reading 1 (aet).

WOMEN'S UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-final round: Bristol 2, Aberystwyth 0.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Piste	Conditions Off piste	Conditions Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)
Davos	115	245	Good	Powder	Good	Cloud
More snow expected						
Flaine	160	510	Icy	Powder	Good	Fine
New snow on hard base						
Kitzbühel	80	205	Good	Varied	Good	Cloud
New snow on good base						
Klosters	110	240	Fair	Crust	Poor	Cloud
Ice on particular slopes						
Saas-Fee	25	70	Good	Crust	Fair	Fine
Worn patches on lower slopes						
St Moritz	40	80	Fair	Varied	Fair	Fine
Good skiing on upper runs						
Sauze d'Oulx	10	25	Worn	Varied	Worn	Cloud
Very worn everywhere						
Verbier	70	250	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair
All lifts now open						
Wengen	90	200	Good	Varied	Good	Snow
Fresh snow on hard base						
Wildschönau	100	270	Hard	Crust	Hard	Cloud
Good piste skiing						

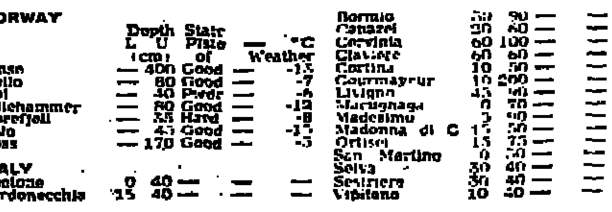
In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources.

NORWAY

	Depth L (cm)	Depth U (cm)	State of Piste	—	Weather	°C
Finse	—	400	Good	—		-13
Geilo	—	80	Good	—		-7
Gol	—	40	Pwdr	—		-6
Lillehammer	—	80	Good	—		-12
Norefjell	—	55	Hard	—		-8
Oslo	—	45	Good	—		-13
Voss	—	170	Good	—		-5

ITALY

	L	U			
Abetone	0	40	—	—	—
Bardonecchia	15	40	—	—	—



	L	U			
Bormio	50	90	—	—	—
Canazei	20	60	—	—	—
Cervinia	60	100	—	—	—
Claviere	60	60	—	—	—
Cortina	10	50	—	—	—
Courmayeur	10	200	—	—	—
Livigno	45	90	—	—	—
Macugnaga	0	70	—	—	—
Madesimo	5	90	—	—	—
Madonna di C	15	50	—	—	—
Ortisei	15	75	—	—	—
San Martino	0	50	—	—	—
Selva	30	40	—	—	—
Sestriere	30	40	—	—	—
Vipiteno	10	40	—	—	—

Athletics

Britain find solace in the astonishing achievement of Coe

By Nicholas Harling

For an athlete who is not supposed to be at his peak, Sebastian Coe's achievement at RAF Cosford last night was all the more astonishing. Coe broke the world indoor record for 800 metres with a time of 1 minute 46.0 seconds to help Great Britain and Northern Ireland to one of only five victories in their international against East Germany, sponsored by Philips.

Coe had decided that his appearance would be the only one in which he would represent his country this winter. He had omitted the European indoor championships at Grenoble from his schedule because his studies at Loughborough University came first. If it was not for the fact that Coe is among the most sincere of sportsmen one would have thought the Olympic 1,500 metre champion was bluffing. The East Germans must have thought so.

The race went according to Coe's plan with his team colleague Mike Whittingham, who led through the first lap in 25.4 sec before letting the man from Sheffield edge in front by the halfway stage which was reached in 52.3 sec. With Andreas Busse, the formidable East German, looking ever menacing on his shoulder Coe reached the bell in 1 min 19.5 sec before injecting even more pace into the last 200 metres. Busse, fifth in the Olympic 800 metres in which Coe won the silver medal, called on his last reserves but was obviously beaten by the last bend.

"I'm slightly fitter than I thought I was," Coe said with typical understatement. "I'm pleased because of the level of speed I've got. I seem to be fitter now than I was at this stage last year. I sensed Busse was there but when I could no longer see his shadow I realized I was on my own."

Coe's time was half a second better than his own previous best indoors, which was a Great Britain and Commonwealth record and four tenths of a second faster than the previous world record, broken in the same year, 1977, by the Italian Carlo Grippo.

Brian Hooper and Aston Moore were the only other two men's winners for Britain. Hooper's clearance at the third attempt of 5.41 metres beat his own British record in the pole vault and Moore won the triple jump with a clearance of 16.32 metres. The procession of East German track successes had earlier been interrupted in two successive women's middle distance events, the first of which left the visitors with a fair amount of egg on their faces.

A 3,000 metres had not originally been planned but it was belatedly included in the timetable at the Germans' insistence. As both the runners from East Germany were passed by 1,200 metres they must have wished they had not bothered. For all they saw was an ever-receding pair of heels belonging to Paula Fudge and Wendy Smith. The Britons lapped the hapless Germans with two laps to go and then staged their own personal duel in which Mrs Fudge emerged victorious over her Hounslow club colleague by a couple of yards in a time which was 11 seconds inside the old United Kingdom, Commonwealth and Cosford record.

An East German also made the running in the 1,500 metres but the early pace of Marion Hubner was not enough to drain the stamina of Gillian Dainty. Although the other East German, Angelika Kuhse, took over, Miss Dainty produced the most spirited of finishes to win by the narrowest of margins.

East Germany won the men's match, 65—44; and the women's, 57—41.

Evening results at Cosford's indoor meeting

Men

60 metres: Heat A: 1, S. Schlegel (EG), 6.77 sec; 2, D. Fubeck (EG), 6.81; 3, ... 6.85; 4, M. Powell ... [illegible]

60M HURDLES: Heat A: 1, T. Munkelt (EG), 7.91; 2, T. Dittrich (EG) ...; 3, P. Kelly 8.14; 4, A. Sumner 8.13. [illegible]

400M: 1, M. Konow (EG), 48.0; 2, ... [illegible]

[illegible]

3,000M: 1, Kunze (EG), 8:6.5; 2, P. Cellan, 8:6.4; 3, H. Melzer (EG), 8:15.0; 4, R. Hackney, 8:15.3.

Women

60M: Heat A: 1, B. Schoelzel (EG), 7.54; 2, B. Wockel (EG), 7.33; 3, W. Hoyte, 7.41; 4, D. Warner, 7.55. Heat B: 1, Schoelzel, 7.52; 2, Hoyte, 7.48; 3, Warner, 7.57.

3,000M: 1, P. Fudge 8:56.4 (British and Commonwealth indoor record); 2, W. Smith 8:56.7; 3, K. Derre (EG) ... [illegible]

High jumpers of the future

Moscow, Feb 10.—An athlete will clear a high jump of 2.50 metres (8ft 2½in) well before the end of the century says the director of the futurology laboratory of the Soviet Institute of Physical Culture, Gennadi Semenov. According to him colleagues in other countries who do not accept his prognosis are being much too cautious.

He expects a height of 2.39 (7ft 10in) to be cleared by 1985 although recent progress has been slow. Dwight Stones, of United States, set a record of 2.32 (7ft 7in) in 1976 and Gert Wessig cleared 2.36 (7ft 9in) at the Moscow Olympic Games last year.

On swimming Mr Semenov is less optimistic than his West German counterpart, Professor Gunter Koehn, who reckons that the world record time for the women's 100 metres free-style will be 53.8 seconds in 1985 against 54.79sec now. Mr Semenov leans rather toward a time of 54.05sec.

As for Vladimir Salnikov who broke the world record in the 1500 metres free-style in 14min 58.27sec in the Olympic Games, he could in a little less than four years according to Mr Semenov's calculations, achieve 14:39.87.

The sports laboratory insist that these are not just idle calculations. Athletes like Salnikov and the long jumper Bob Beamon, of United States among others have already by far exceeded the most daring predictions made for them.

But this was not the case at the Olympics. Mr Semenov says that his predictions were confirmed in every discipline measured. We said the Olympic high jump gold medal winner would have to leap between 2.36 metres and 2.37. Wessig achieved 2.36 metres.

Football

Liverpool will face a positive West Ham

By Norman Fox
Football Correspondent

Only seven months after they last met at Wembley, West Ham United and Liverpool return on March 14 for the Football League Cup Final. A more fetching prospect would be difficult to arrange, and the match could hardly fail to be more competitive than the last cheerless affair when the champions beat the FA Cup holders by one goal that was the only highlight.

The previous game was the FA Charity Shield, rarely the most contentious occasion in the season. The day was warm and neither team appeared to have recovered from the summer break. Liverpool strolled and controlled the game in midfield, but times have changed and now they are disturbed by loss of form while West Ham march towards promotion and are a more positive team than in August.

In one important respect West Ham will be more threatening. Two days after the Charity Shield they spent their FA Cup winnings on Paul Goddard from Queen's Park Rangers for whom he had scored 16 goals the previous season. Goddard has since become an effective partner for the bold experienced centre-forward, Cross, and continues to score impromptu goals, not least West Ham's first against Coventry City in Tuesday's semi-final round, second leg. His shot from outside the penalty area owed more to cool judgment than luck with the positioning of the goalkeepr who was comprehensively beaten.

Coventry, narrow 4—3 aggregate losers through a last minute goal by Neighbour, whose position in the team had been uncertain, have ample time to develop their young side, but their disappointment at not holding the 3—2 lead with which they began was magnified by the fact that they were so close to reaching Wembley for the first time. Now West Ham will go there for the ninth time and their stylish football, based on simplicity yet above the heads of most second division opponents, should show whether Liverpool have declined or are victims of temporary loss of confidence and key players.

Relief rather than satisfaction was evident in Liverpool's reaction to a 1—1 draw with Manchester City who thus lost 2-1 on aggregate but put up a sound performance after conceding a fairly early goal to Dalglish. Neal and McDermott both felt that the fact of their reaching Wembley could help improve the spirit of the team which had been lowered by three successive defeats. Neither player suggested that the performance itself merited a celebration.

While West Ham's manager, John Lyall, mused on what he called some of the best football the club had played in 20 years and Liverpool's Bob Paisley spoke, presumably tongue in cheek, of a victory that would keep him in work, Tuesday's losers could at last look forward to an early opportunity for compensation in FA Cup ties. Coventry go to Tottenham and Manchester will be at Peterborough on Saturday . . . The Manchester City full-back, Ranson, aggravated a hamstring injury playing against Liverpool and has little chance of appearing.

Although regular visitors to Wembley, neither West Ham nor Liverpool have won the Football League Cup and both have lost in finals. They are out of the FA Cup but remain in Europe; indeed, both play Eastern European opponents only four days after the final. By reputation they have little else in common. West Ham are known by their aesthetic values, their emphasis on attractive invention, while Liverpool have always been hard, practical, enormously strong in midfield and supremely well organized.

In contemporary reality, West Ham are as tough as they come and will probably be prepared to engage Liverpool in an unrelenting struggle spiced with the skills of Brooking and Devonshire. Where before there was summer somnolence next month should see a much sharper occasion.

Brazil protest: Brazil have protested to the International Football Federation (FIFA) over the state of the pitch and the standard of refereeing in last Sunday's World Cup qualifying match against Venezuela in Caracas. Giulite Coutinho, president of the Brazilian Football Confederation, told reporters in Rio de Janeiro yesterday the complaint was made through the FIFA representative at the match.

Brazil won the game, the first elimination match for the 1982 World Cup, 1—0 with a late penalty. Venezuela are not highly regarded and the Brazilian press severely criticised their team for the narrowness of the victory

Yesterday's results

Fourth division

Bradford C (0) 0		Halifax 3,056	(0) 0
Wigan Ath (0) 1 Wright		Hereford 3,570	(0) 0

Scottish second division

Meadowbank (1) 1 Jobson		East Fife G. Scott, Mitchell, McGinn	(1) 3

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Southern division: Dover 3, Aylesbury 0.
EUROPEAN YOUTH CUP: Qualifying round: first leg: England 1, Northern Ireland 0.
OTHER MATCH: Leicester City 3, Red Star Belgrade 0. Harrow Borough 1, Southall 0.
UNIVERSITY MATCH: London University 0, RAF 1.
UAU CHAMPIONSHIP: Semi-final round: Exeter 2, Sheffield 4.
WELSH CUP: Fifth round: Wrexham 2, Connahs Quay Nomads 1.
IRISH LEAGUE: Glenavon 1, Cliftonville 2.
INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Mexico 4, South Korea 0.
TOUR MATCH: Talleres de Cordoba (Argentina) 3, Hungary 0.
SCHOOLS: Charterhouse 2, FA Colts XI 3; Colfe's 1, Westminster City 2; Falmouth 3, Penwith 1; Godalming 3, Strodes 1, Hampton 1, Furzedown 1; KCS, Wimbledon 3, City of London 0; Oratory 2, Douai 7.

Forest rue poor finishing

Nacional 1 Nottingham Forest 0

Tokyo, Feb 11.—An early goal by Waldemar Victorino gave the South American champions, Nacional of Uruguay, victory over Nottingham Forest, the European Cup holders, in the Inter-Continental Cup today. The match was 10 minutes old when Nacional broke sharply down the right in their first attack. Jose Hermes Moreira, a defender, crossed from near the corner flag and Victorino's shot left Shilton helpless.

Forest pressed from the start but an unyielding defence, in which Nacional's goalkeeper Rodriguez was outstanding, kept them out. Forest had 18 shots to Nacional's nine but could not turn their height and speed into an equalizer. The long passes which Nacional used to launch counter-attacks thrilled the capacity crowd of 62,000. Anderson was wide with Forest's first shot and set a pattern for his colleagues.

Victorino scored three goals in Uruguay's recent triumph in the Gold Cup tournament among former World Cup winners but his goal today was more valuable. Japanese reporters named him as man of the match and his reward was a new car. After the goal he was tightly marked by Lloyd and managed only one more shot.

Stuart Gray, the young Forest midfield player, came nearest to an equalizer when his header 12 minutes before the end hit the post. Nacional also had the ball in the net twice but both efforts were ruled out for offside.

Inter Milan scandal

Milan, Feb 11.—A new scandal has rocked Italian football with the revelation that Milan's Internazionale club won last month's under-14 tournament in Argentina with a team that included a 15-year-old playing under a false name.

Leicester sign Lynex

Steve Lynex, the Birmingham City striker, was transferred to Leicester City for £60,000 yesterday. Lynex almost joined Leicester in a straight exchange for Bobby Smith a fortnight ago, but the move broke down when Birmingham failed to agree terms with Smith.

For Barnsley and Peterborough thoughts of promotion are relegated for a day

How Cup fever can be a 'blooming nuisance'

Peterborough United, the only fourth division club still in the FA Cup, stand neat, clean and tidy as if awaiting the new dawn. A broad green pitch, huge car parks, a 4,500-seater main stand, big dressing rooms, plenty of light, spacious administrative offices, wide corridors, fresh paint everywhere: London Road, Peterborough oozes with that most dangerous of football commodities, potential.

Their fifth round tie against Manchester City on Saturday, a 28,000 sell-out, is a brief test of that potential. It is also a chance to make some money, a stage for individual ambitions and "a blooming nuisance".

The money is important. A year ago Peterborough were losing £3,000 a week on turnstile turnover. Now it is down to £700 a week; still a frightening figure, eased somewhat by a strong commercial department. Seat prices have been raised from £1.75 to £3; ground admission is up to £1.50, an exhorbitant figure for a game which is locally in the special event category.

Whether we like it or not the financial climate dictates everything at this level. With the side pushing for promotion the manager, Peter Morris, could virtually assure success by acquiring two or three useful players of experience. It cannot be done. He must sell before he can buy and bigger clubs well aware of the rules of the transfer game will be well represented at London Road on Saturday.

Robbie Cooke, with 21 goals this season, is the main target. Thanks to Mr Morris's perseverance, Cooke, who is 24 next week, has survived the indignity of a free transfer twice from the same club, Mansfield. After scoring 83 goals in two seasons for Grantham, Cooke joined Peterborough for £12,000 and is now talked of in terms of £250,000.

Cooke is the first to acknowledge that he is not the only young player being closely watched. Trevor Quow, aged 20, Nick Gynn, aged 19, and Bill Kellock of the midfield; Trevor Slack, an 18-year-old defender, and Keith Waugh, a goalkeeper, are names bandied around in scouting circles. For players of a different age group—like Alan Slough, who played in Fulham's 1975 cup final side, and 35-year-old Tommy Robson—this sort of build-up is not new although it is more welcome for them than for their manager.

"Frankly I shall be glad to get this one over with," Peter Morris says. "The supporters, the players can talk about only one thing, this game. We are all looking forward to it but it has been unsettling and all the transfer gossip is slowly getting at even Robbie Cooke who is very level headed. Promotion from the fourth division might not be as exciting but is much more important to the club."

Peterborough is encircled by a modern urban motorway system and is struggling to keep its own identity in the country's fastest growing city, where 350 new factories and 1,600 new homes have shot up in ten years. The football club is having to rebuild its own foundations brick by brick.

They came into the football league with a bang and 134 goals in 1960; they reached the sixth round in 1965, eliminating Arsenal in the process. In their short history there have been heroes, giant-killings, even a skeleton or two in the cupboard but never consistency. Ironically, they have been remarkably consistent in this run, completing victory in every round away from home at Barnet, Northampton, Chesterfield and Notts County.

Mr Morris, who played for nine years in the first division with Ipswich, learned much of his own philosophy under Bobby Robson "the best manager I have come across" and under John Bond at Norwich "probably the best coach in the country". He now faces Mr Bond in opposition.

"Manchester City play a lot of early balls into the penalty area and they like to build from the back," Mr Morris said. "It's not like that in the fourth division where midfield is often by-passed. We beat Notts County by first stopping them playing and then creating a bit of trouble ourselves. It will be a tremendous experience for everyone—and then we can get back to business".

Gerry Harrison

On Saturday, Barnsley will make their first appearance in an FA Cup fifth round tie for 17 years. That they step into a first division den at Middlesbrough is causing them little concern. After the agonies suffered against Enfield, Norman Hunter's side is mightily relieved to be cast as Daniel.

The cup run, however, is merely part of an impressively consistent season. Their defeat at Huddersfield last weekend was only Barnsley's second in 27 matches; the other fell at West Ham in the League Cup in October, and only after next month's finalists were delivered a sharp scare.

As to who should be awarded most credit for revitalizing a club who won the cup 69 years ago, but have lived uneventfully in the lower two divisions since 1959, opinions in South Yorkshire are divided. In truth, both the present incumbent of the manager's office and his predecessor deserve their share of praise. Allan Clarke arrived in the summer of 1978 and cajoled into winning promotion from the fourth division a group of players he secretly believed were not quite good enough. He induced a more professional air; club suits smartened an industrial image, and players who had been responsible for washing their own training kit were made to feel more important.

Mr Clarke was also ruthless enough to dismantle quickly the promotion team and persuasive enough to attract the present squad from far afield to an unfashionable part of the country. A board with a perceptive outlook—directors Gordon Pallister and the comedian Charlie Williams, both carry great experience as league professionals—approved an outlay of some £400,000 to furnish the rebuilding.

But if Barnsley are Mr Clarke's players, they are Mr Hunter's team. Since his arrival in September, his less autocratic approach has not lessened the dressing room respect, and he has tightened the unit on and off the field. Like Mr Clarke, too, he has also come quickly to terms with a vast reduction in his own active role.

Certain players have responded particularly well to the charge of management, notably Trevor Aylott, once of Chelsea, and very much the Londoner who is still puzzled by the dialects of his new surroundings. Aylott started the season by hurling his shirt at Mr Clarke when he was substituted. Under Mr Hunter, he has come off the transfer list and scored 13 goals in three months.

Mr Hunter has also drawn more from Ian Evans, a Wales regular at centre back until a leg snapped after a challenge from George Best in October, 1977. Promoted to player-coach, Evans's over-eager commitment has cost him a place at Middlesbrough through suspension. Barnsley will miss the influence of a defender who five years ago helped Crystal Palace become the last third division club to reach an FA Cup semi-final.

Had he been fit, Mr Hunter himself would have deputized. Instead, Neil Cooper, a versatile 21-year-old from Aberdeen and another product of Mr Clarke's bargain-hunting, will play.

But Barnsley's greatest hope of causing a surprise lies at the feet of another Scot. Ronnie Glavin won a full cap against Sweden in April, 1977 and scored prolifically for Celtic before business difficulties led to a move from Glasgow. Glavin operates in advance of midfield and behind the designated frontmen in a style which has led to accusations of laziness; but like a pirranha he devours any tit-bits in opposing penalty areas, and 39 goals in a season and a half pay tribute to his value to Barnsley. His teammates, moreover, have learned how to compensate for his defensive deficiencies, notably Bobby Downes whose unselfish approach helped Watford climb from the fourth to the second division.

Mike Lester, an extrovert on the ball, and Derrick Parker, whose goals helped Barnsley through earlier rounds, will appreciate the first division platform, having failed to make their mark at higher levels with Manchester City and Burnley.

Martin Tyler



Racing

Slippery customer: Easter Eel (left) overhauls Two Swallows on his way to victory.

Derring Rose lets the side down

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

Fred Winter, at home in bed with flu, must have felt a little better shortly after 3.35 yesterday afternoon when news came through of his treble at Ascot. Fifty Dollars More, Prayukta and Easter Eel all came home ahead in the skilful hands of John Francome, who felt that he would have had four if only "that so and so had put it in".

He was referring to Derring Rose, who, he considered, could have won the Fernbank Hurdle if only he had taken a hold of his bit and got down to his work racing down the hill into Swinley Bottom. But that is typical of Derring Rose these days and, as I remarked yesterday, he can no longer be regarded as a sound betting proposition. By the time he did consent to race Richdee had flown.

But enough of what was the only blot on the Winter/Francome copybook. They got off to a perfect start when Fifty Dollars More won the Datchet Novices' Hurdle. Half an hour later it continued in much the same vein when Prayukta took the Sapling Novices' Steeplechase in his stride.

Towards the end of a perfect afternoon for steeplechasing Easter Eel set the seal when he won the Reynoldstown Novices' Steeplechase far more easily than the judges' verdict might have one believe. Easter Eel's jumping was a revelation. He gained ground at almost every fence but Francome was content to let Two Swallows, who had won his last five races blaze the trail.

It was only when there were two fences left that he decided to show his hand. Though Two Swallows stuck to his task, aided and abetted by the man of the moment, Bob Davies, Easter Eel was always pulling double over him up the straight.

No wonder his connexions see him winning the Sun Alliance Novices' Steeplechase at Cheltenham next month. He will not be the only hope of his side that day because Fifty Dollars More, who won his race yesterday in the style of a decent young horse, is earmarked for the Sun Alliance Novices' Hurdle.

Fifty Dollars More had thrived physically since I saw him last at Kempton Park on Boxing Day and his trainer was right not to ask too much of him in this his first season jumping in this country. He is still a relatively immature individual who is unlikely to find the strength to match his frame for another couple of years.

Now that Snowtown Boy has not only broken a blood vessel but also developed a heart condition Prayukta is likely to be Winter's runner in the Arkle Challenge Trophy at Cheltenham. It is an example of the stable's strength in depth. Just as it had been at Kempton, Prayukta's jumping was a joy to behold and it came as no surprise to hear that this horse, who won the imperial Cup when he was hurdling, immediately took to jumping fences on the schooling grounds at Lambourn.

Winter's day must have been complete when his assistant trainer, Oliver Sherwood, who had stood in for him, won the Kilfane Handicap Hurdle for Paul Kelleway, in his capacity as an amateur rider, on Donegal Prince. Those who have already backed Mount Harvard to win Saturday's Schweppes Gold Trophy at Newbury will seize on this result to bolster faith in their runner. Last year Mount Harvard gave Donegal Prince 10lb and beat him three and a half lengths at Huntingdon.

After Aldaniti had won the Whitbread Trial Handicap Steeplechase his price for the Grand National plummeted from 50 to 1 to 33 to 1. There were still several takers at 33 to 1 in the belief that his price will shrink quickly to half those odds. However, well though Aldaniti won, his career is strewn with leg trouble. His trainer, Josh Gifford, and owners, Nick and Valda Embiricos, spent months nursing him back to fitness after he broke down at Sandown Park 15 months ago.

Those who took the fancy price about Aldaniti winning the National may well be sitting pretty on the day but I would prefer to take a shorter price and see him there at Aintree at the beginning of April fit and sound. Of one thing there can be no doubt, however, and that is that Bob Champion would dearly love to ride Aldaniti in the National.

Aldaniti's task yesterday was made easier by the falls of Lesley Anne, Master Spy and Bueche Glorod at the same fence. But anyone who realises the extent of Bob Champion's illness last year would, I am convinced be only too happy to see them reunited successfully at Aintree.

Huntingdon card loses some glitter

By Michael Seely

Wayward Lad and Happy Voyage are to miss their engagements at Huntingdon this afternoon. For a moment yesterday it seemed that a leg injury in training might bring the career of the brilliant young chaser Wayward Lad to an abrupt end.

"There was a sickening crunch." his trainer, Michael Dickinson, said, "and Wayward Lad went so lame that we thought he'd split a pastern and might have to be destroyed. However, when the vet examined the horse a great deal of pus and gravel came out of his foot. With average luck, he should be all right in a few days time."

It is bad luck on the Huntingdon executive that their two main races should now look so uncompetitive. Fulke Walwyn has decided to run Dramatist in a handicap at Newbury tomorrow in preference to taking on Wayward Lad in the Ely Steeplechase. So with the absence of both horses there are now only two runners, Dancing Brig and Havanus.

The Sidney Banks Memorial Novices Hurdle is the most valuable event of the day. In the absence of Happy Voyage this two and a half mile race should fall to Walwyn's improving novice, Fauloon. His four victories this season have included two in handicaps and the six-year-old was by no means disgraced when narrowly failing to concede lumps of weight to Royal Gaye at Cheltenham last time out. Fauloon should prove too good for Lex, Glamour Show and Jolimo.

Now that Stan Mellor's stable has started to find its form Royal Stuart may be capable of defying a 5 lb penalty for his Windsor victory in the Whittlesey Handicap Steeplechase. Two other likely winners at Huntingdon are Leseluc in the Glatton Handicap Hurdle and Remigio in the Major Charles Townsend Memorial Hunters Steeplechase. Leseluc finished runner-up to Danhagen at Nottingham and that form was franked when Danhagen won in good style at Stratford-on-Avon

The Wincanton Challenge Cup has also turned out to be a disappointing affair. Here again there are only three runners. Stopped should be much too sharp for Artifice and Kabeau.

The hunter chasers are also in full cry on the Somerset track. Lord Dawson won impressively at Leicester and appears to be the pick of the runners in the first division of the Bruton Hunters Steeplechase.

STATE OF GOING (official): Huntingdon: Good. Wincanton: Good to soft. Tomorrow: Newbury: Back stretch, good to soft. Straight, good. Sedgefield: Good to soft.

Ascot results

1.30 (1.33) DATCHET HURDLE (Novices: £2,638: 2m)
FIFTY DOLLARS MORE, b g, by Deep Run—Shanestown (Sheikh Ali Abu Khamsin), 6-11-13
J. Francome (4-5 fav) 1
My Snip .. C. McIlfatrick (33-1) 2
Sir Gordon .. P. Scudamore (7-4) 3
TOTE: Win, 16p; places, 10p, 34p, 10p; dual f: £2.12. CSF: £2.95. F. Winter, at Lambourn. ½l, 5l. Shoemender (15-2), 4th. 9 ran.

2.0 (2.4) SAPLING CHASE (Novices: £3,850: 3m)
PRAYUKTA, br g, by Prince Regent —Phaya (Mrs I. Macaulay), 6-11-7 J. Francome (11-8 fav) 1
Palace Dan .... J. Burke (7-1) 2
Why So .... C. Grant (8-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 35p; places, 12p, 17p, 15p; dual f: 50p. CSF: £1.10. F. Winter, at Lambourn. 1l, 8l. Devil's Brig (20-1) 4th. 8 ran.

2.30 (2.35) FERNBANK HURDLE (£3,342: 3m)
RICHDEE, ch g, by Richboy—Sunadee (Miss D. Dalzell), 5-11-12 .... C. Hawkins (9-1) 1
Derring Rose .. J. Francome (4-1) 2
Chiaroulah
R. S. Townend (5-4 fav) 3
TOTE: Win, 63p; places, 16p, 21p, 10p; Dual F: £1.09. CSF: £3.44. Cpt. N. Crump, Middleham. 3l, 15l. Broomley (9-2), 4th. 10 ran.

3.0 (3.4) WHITBREAD TRIAL CHASE (Handicap: £7,596: 3m)
ALDANITI, ch g, by Derek H—Renardeau (S. Embiricos), 11-11-7 .. R. Champion (14-1) 1
Royal Charley .. P. Raynes (7-1) 2
Kilkilwell R. S. Townend (10-1) 3
TOTE: Win: £1.73; places, 32p, 18p, 31p; Dual F: £3.37. CSF: £10.57. J. Gifford, Findon. 4l, 15l. Cabar Feidh (2-1 fav), 4th. 8 ran.

3.35 REYNOLDSTOWN CHASE (Novices: £7,544: 3m)
EASTER EEL, ch g, by Grenaloch's Nephew—What A Beauty (J. Mulch) 10-12-0
J. Francome (8-11 fav) 1
Two Swallows B. R. Davies (5-2) 2
Ten Pointer P. Scudamore (16-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 18p; places, 10p, 17p; Dual F: 18p. CSF: 27p. F. Winter, Lambourn. 2l, 20l. Oaklawn (66-1) 4th. 7 ran.

4.10 (4.13) KILFANE HURDLE (Amateurs: Handicap: £2,068: 2½m)
DONEGAL PRINCE, b h, by Prince De Galles—Serena Rose (J. McGonagle) 8-11-8
Mr O. Sherwood (evens fav) 1
Singing Amah Mr C. O'Toole (4-1) 2
Kirkstone Pass
Mr T. Thomson Jones (10-1) 3
TOTE: Win, 21p; places, 14p, 10p, 14p, 20p. Dual F: 48p. CSF: 60p. P. Kelleway, Newmarket. 2½l, 2l. Ascencia (7-1), 4th. 26 ran.

TOTE DOUBLE: Prayukta, Richdee, £25.70. TREBLE: Richdee, Aldaniti, Easter Eel, £150.80.
TOTE JACKPOT: £1,135.65. PLACEPOT: £7.75.

Ludlow

1.15: 1, Ox Lesson (16-1); 2, Laurensun (5-4 fav); 3, Falcon's Revenge (6-1). 19 ran. Pitlochry did not run.
1.45: 1, Bell-Amys (7-1); 2, Keithson (11-10 fav); 3, Beach Party (7-1). 15 ran. NR: Squire's Heir.
2.15: 1, Ladyswood (15-2); 2, Davidgalaxy Affair (9-4 jt fav); 3, Scarlet Silk (9-4 jt fav). 20 ran.
2.45: 1, Captain Clover (6-4); 2, Landiali (50-1); 3, Ledger Line (20-1). Spartan Scot (11-8 fav). 16 ran.
3.15: 1, Cheka (7-1); 2, Pennine Derek (7-2); 3, Handy Mark (7-1). More Pleasure (5-2 fav). 15 ran. NR: Secretary General.
3.45: 1, Straight Cash (11-4 fav); 2, Think Big (11-2); 3, Irish Quicksteps (25-1). 11 ran.
4.15: 1, Dishcloth (20-1); 2, Nahane (20-1); 3, Sea Cargo (16-1). Ayyabaan (3-1 fav). 19 ran. NR: Billanell.

Prince rides again

Prince Charles returns to steeplechasing on Saturday. He will ride his own horse, Allibar, in the Charles Higgins Memorial Foxhunters' Cup, over two and a half miles at Newbury. Allibar's trainer, Nick Gaselee, said: "The prince will ride Allibar as part of both horse and rider's preparation for their target this season—the Grand Military Gold Cup at Sandown." It will be Prince Charles' third attempt to win a chase.

CHELTENHAM GOLD CUP: 40 entries. Aldaniti, Anaglogs Daughter, Approaching, Artifice, Border Incident, Bright Highway, Bueche Giorod, Chinrullah, Corrib Chieftain, Counsel Cottage, Daletta, Diamond Edge, Fair View, Flame Gun, Gay Spartan, Gienrold, Jack of Trumps, Just Able, Kas, King Or Country, Lesley Ann, Light The Wad, Little Owl, Mac's Chariot, Mac Vidi, Master Smudge, Midnight Court, Night Nurse, Otter Way, Ottery News, Pillar Brae, Raffi Nelson, Royal Bond, Royal Judgment, Secret Progress, Silent Valley, Silver Buck, Sir Gayle, So And So, Spartan Missile, Straight Jocelyn, Tarqestral, Tied Cottage, Trugus, Two Swallows, Venture To Cognac. To be run over 3¼ miles on Thursday, March 19. First acceptance: February 24.

QUEEN MOTHER CHAMPION CHASE: 21 entries: Anaglogs Daughter, Another Dolly, Artifice, Beacon Light, Chinrullah, Corrib Chieftain, Dramatist, Drumgora, Drusus, Gambling Prince, Hilly Way, Hot Tomato, Jack of Trumps, Light The Wad, Night Nurse, Prince Kumar VI, Rathgorman, Siberian Sun, Socks, Stopped, Tonedale. To be run over two miles at Cheltenham on Wednesday, March 18. First acceptance February 24.

Huntingdon programme

1.30 GLATTON HURDLE (Handicap: £1,021: 2m 200yd)

3 0000 Penscynor, J. Bingham, 5-11-8 ...... Carmody
4 0000 Birkholm, D. Kent, 7-11-2 .... Haynes
5 0033 Chennel Lane, T. Barron, 7-10-12 .. Balmer
6 0000 Pink Tank, M. Ryan, 8-10-11 ...... Pearce
9 030/ Four Fathoms, A. Goodwill, 7-10-9 .. W. Smith
10 011/ Lepidus, C. Wardman, 11-10-8 .. Holmes 7
12 0144 Arc Prince (CD, B), W. Wharton, 6-10-5 .... S. O'Neill
13 100-0 Azerila, J. Gifford, 5-10-5 .... Rowe
14 0400 Glen Moy (CD), D. Ringer, 6-10-4 .. —
15 0-002 Leseluc (CD), G. Balding, 5-10-4 .... Reilly
16 1200 Cap Too, J. Blundell, 5-10-4 ...... A. Brown
17 110-0 Priestcroft Star, K. Bailey, 7-10-4 .. Webber
18 10-0 Rahaj, H. Jackson, 5-10-2 ...... Howling 7
20 1102 Mandy's Time, J. Harris, 5-10-0 .. Harris 7
21 0-ppf Speak To Me Bones, V. Soane, 7-10-0 .. Jobar
23 0-004 Rurik, A. Pratt, 8-10-0 ...... Mrs Grissell 4
25 -2000 Selborne Lass, W. Barrett, 5-10-0 .... Young
26 000-4 Graf Metternich, Mrs J. Pitman, 6-10-0 Smart
28 0400 Oriental Prince, M. Ryan, 7-10-0 McLaughlin 4
29 p000 Bandyke (B), I. Dudgeon, 7-10-0 .... Shaw
30 340/ Porto Rico, H. Collingridge, 9-10-0 Hutchinson 4
32 00-00 Topsis, O. Jorgensen, 6-10-0 .... Barlow
33 0-000 Rue D'Or, Miss A. H.-Wood, 10-10-0 Bastard 4

9-2 Leseluc, 5-1 Chennel Lane, 6-1 Mandy's Time, 7-1 Arc Prince, 8-1 Cap too, 10-1 Azerila, 12-1 Birkholm, 14-1 Priestcroft Star, Graf Metternich, 16-1 Four Fathoms, 20-1 others.

2.0 WHITTLESEY CHASE (Handicap: £1,124: 3m 100yd)

2 4041 Royal Stuart, S. Mellor, 10-11-8 .... Blacker
3 1114 Benghazi Express, Mrs J. Pitman, 7-11-5 Smart
4 0000 Skryne, P. Bailey, 11-11-5 ...... Bowden 7
8 0413 Turk, L. Furman, 9-10-9 .... Coogan 4
13 3fu1 Flagstaff, T. Forster, 9-10-0 .... Webber
16 04-34 Siberto (CD), F. Coton, 11-10-0 Miss King 4
21 p-f0p Rajmataj, J. Gifford, 10-10-0 .... Rowe

2-1 Royal Stuart, 3-1 Benghazi Express, 7-2 Flagstaff, 8-1 Turk, 12-1 Skryne, 16-1 Siberto, 20-1 Rajmataj.

2.30 SIDNEY BANKS HURDLE (Novices: £4,142: 2½m)

1 2112 Fauloon (D), F. Walwyn, 6-12-0 .. W. Smith
4 111 •Happy Voyage (D), M. Dickinson, 6-11-4 —
5 00 Two Jacks, Mrs C. Marriage, 6-11-4 .. Hives
6 1134 Glamour Show (D), J. Gifford, 5-11-2 Rowe
7 34 Jolimo, M. Ryan, 5-11-2 .... Pearce
8 0 Meggie Dene, W. Barrett, 5-11-2 .. Johnson
11 04-00 Smiling Cavalier, D. Thom, 5-11-2 Mr Madwar
12 4201 Lex, N. Callaghan, 4-10-9 .... Barry
17 424 Tuthill Bond, N. Callaghan, 4-10-4 .. Carmody

4-5 Fauloon, 4-1 Glamour Show, 11-2 Jolimo, 8-1 Lex, 12-1 Tuthill Bond, 25-1 others.

3.0 ELY CHASE (£2,393: 2½m)

2 131-3 Dancing Brig (D), T. Clay, 10-11-13 Mr Clay
4 -3244 Havanus (D), D. Morley, 9-11-13 B. R. Davies
10 1211 •Wayward Lad (D), M. Dickinson, 6-11-13 —

1-2 Havanus, 6-4 Dancing Brig.

3.30 MAJOR CHARLES TOWNSEND CHASE (£479: 2½m)

2 12f4- Remigio, Mrs G. Paterson, 13-12-9 Mr A. Wilson
3 1002 Roadhead (C,D), J. Gifford, 8-12-9 Miss Wilson 7
4 31u0- Chapeau D'Or, A. Twine, 11-12-5 Mr Maundrell 7
5 2120- No Retreat, P. Hiatt, 9-12-5 .. Mr Pritchard 7
6 p341- Quimall, B. Ward, 9-12-5 .. Mr Heaton-Ellis 7
7 004-2 Ramblix (D), P. Ledger, 9-12-5 .... Mr Head
8 4030- Reliable Robert, R. Lloyd, 7-12-5 Mr Lloyd 7
9 /41-4 Sydney Quin (D), W. Kelly, 9-12-5 Miss Mumford 7
10 002/ Ammenella, W. Allen, 9-12-0 .... Mr Woolley
12 Brimtree Boy, W. Haynes, 11-12-0 Mr Haynes 7
15 000p- Corua, J. Bowman, 7-12-0 .... —
20 0/30 Orange Gin (C), Mrs S. Hastings, 8-12-0 .... Mr Arthers 7
21 0pp/ Prince Reyrard, D. Statham, 11-12-0 Mr Bosley 7
23 f2- Quick Choire, L. G.-Grossman, 9-12-0 Mr Stuart-Hunt 7
24 023u- Tom Bombadil, R. P.-Warlow, 11-12-0 .... Mr Picton-Warlow
26 0041- Red Gem (B), Lord Leigh, 5-11-7 Mr Walter 4

6-4 Roadhead, 3-1 Remigio, 4-1 Ramblix, 8-1 No Retreat, 16-1 Chapeau D'Or, 20-1 others.

4.0 LONG STANTON HURDLE (Handicap: £1,027: 3m)

1 0000 Atlantic Bridge, G. Balding, 7-11-12 .... Reilly
3 2f3f Fredo, J. Gifford, 8-11-0 .... Rowe
4 -0040 Padski (D), R. Hollinshead, 8-11-7 .. Astbury
6 0401 Price Review, K. Bailey, 7-11-0 .... Webber
8 4121 Fogbound (D), P. Curtis, 10-10-11 Wilkinson 4
12 4013 Charter Flight (D, B), M. H. Easterby, 6-10-6 .... Mr Thomson-Jones
13 4402 Kirov (D), R. Gubby 7-10-3 .... Forsyth 4
14 0024 Genovese (D, B), D. Grissell, 9-10-3 Mrs Grissell 4
16 2300 Run Deep, D. Gandolfo, 5-10-0 ...... Barton
17 03-0p Gleaning, P. Felgate, 6-10-0 .... Tuck
18 p-031 Tan Trood (CD), Mrs K. Wallace, 8-10-0 .... Miss Wallace 7
20 f-f00 Rust Borough, P. Bevan, 9-10-0 .... Wall 7
21 4022 Precipienne, J. Blundell, 6-10-0 .... Dutton 7
23 0030 Raise You, P. Asquith, 7-10-0 ...... Whyte
27 0000 Pomme Star, L. Furman, 5-10-0 .... Coogan 4
28 0000 Wynsome Way, J. Holt, 7-10-0 .... Mr Holt 7
29 /000 Mace The Ace (B), A. Potts, 8-10-0 McLaughlin
30 f-000 Poor Sun, R. Voorspuy, 5-10-0 .... Lovejoy 7
31 0p00 Young Horn, Mrs K. Bull, 6-10-0 McSharry 7
32 0p00 Dusky Flight, S. G. Smith, 7-10-0 .... —

4-1 Price Review, 9-2 Charter Flight, 5-1 Fogbound, 7-1 Precipienne, 10-1 Tan Trood, Genovese, 12-1 Kirov, 14-1 Gleaning, 16-1 Padski, Atlantic Bridge, 20-1 others.

•Doubtful runner

Huntingdon selections

By Michael Seely
1.30 Leseluc. 2.0 ROYAL STUART is specially recommended. 2.30 Fauloon. 3.0 Dancing Brig. 3.30 Remigio. 4.0 Fogbound.

Wincanton programme

12.45 BRUTON CHASE (Div I: Hunters: £662: 3m 1f)

1 24-1 Lord Dawson, D. White, 7-12-7 Mrs White 7
3 2224- Royal Air, M. Fear, 10-12-7 .... Fear 7
6 0- Allington Bridge, P. Botting, 9-12-0 P. Webber
9 03/0- Carrigmore, K. Bishop, 8-12-0 .... Bishop 7
12 0000- Down Boy, P. Hunkin, 7-12-0 Thomson Jones
14 0- Glanville Prince, S. Mitchell, 11-12-0 C. Mitchell 7
16 Happy Klondyke, H. Williams, 9-12-0 H. Williams 7
20 pf0-0 Morning Heather, P. Tory, 8-12-0 Felton 7
22 043/ Persian Scimitar, Mrs V. Robertson, 8-12-0 Trickey 7
24 Pine Melody, R. Barnett, 8-12-0 . B. Thomas 7
26 Royal Rondo, J. Bowden, 11-12-0 Bowden 7
28 True Member, P. Norman, 7-12-0 Norman 7

7-4 Lord Dawson, 5-2 Royal Air, 5-1 Persian Scimitar, 10-1 Glanville Prince, 12-1 True Member, 14-1 Pine Melody, 16-1 others.

1.15 CORTON DENHAM CHASE (Handicap: £1,303: 2m 5f)

203 f032 Doubly Royal (B), D. Gandolfo, 9-10-11 M. Richards
206 -4p23 Bramble Joy, P. Cundell, 9-10-5 .. Strange
207 2021 Easy Pickens (CD), R. Hodges, 7-10-5 Covle
209 -0300 Friendly Steve (B), G. Stickland, 9-10-5 Darlington
210 0fp3 Woodham, J. Old, 11-10-5 ...... McIlfatrick
213 0-03b Acrasian Gold, A. Gadd, 7-10-5 .. Peerless
214 032u Dornie (C), K. Cunningham-Brown, 11-10-5 Mann
217 000r Mac, C. Mackenzie, 9-10-5 .... Kennard 5
218 pp0-p Golden Singer, D. Turner, 5-10-5 Careecq

2-1 Doubly Royal, 100-30 Easy Pickens, 4-1 Bramble Joy, 11-2 Woodham, 8-1 Dornie, 12-1 others.

1.45 GILLINGHAM HURDLE (Handicap: £1,480: 2m)

303 -0110 Chalk Your Cue (D), T. Hallett, 6-11-6 B. Wright
304 f3ff- Gently Does It (D), L. Kennard, 9-11-5 Miss Vincent
306 0-0p3 The Goldstone (D), W. Wightman, 9-11-3 Reeves 7
307 1012 Bickleigh Bridge (CD), R. Hodges, 7-11-1 S. G. Knight
308 0140 Lady Martha (D), R. Head, 7-10-9 O'Halloran
309 0123 Luck Chris (D), I. Dudgeon, 6-10-9 McCourt
310 3p0p Galahad II (CD), A. Hollac, 8-10-6 R. Floyd
311 0233- Yule Star (CD), N. Thompson, 8-10-5 Darlington 4
312 2131- Sandra Bella (D), I. Wardle, 6-10-1 Miss Sherron
313 -0004 French Lane, Mrs A. Finch, 7-10-0 Keightley
314 100-0 Mr Juicy (CD), J. Vaughan, 5-10-0 J. Williams
315 -0000 Mi Mary (CD), R. Pocock, 8-10-0 P. Richards
316 -00f0 Groovy (D, B), W. Turner, 6-10-0 M. Floyd
318 p050 General Carl (D), B. Forsey, 6-10-0 C. Brown
321 /3-40 Spencil Hill, L. Kennard, 8-10-0 .. A. Webber
322 /04-p Edith Rose, I. Dudgeon, 6-10-0 .... Newton 7
323 0040 Avon Salmon, D. Gandolfo, 6-10-0 M. Richards 7
324 0/p-3 Chocolate Imp, D. Tucker, 8-10-0 Peerless 7
325 p Great Raven, M. Stephens, 9-10-0 Muggeridge 7

4-1 The Goldstone, 9-2 Lucky Chris, 5-1 Bickleigh Bridge, 13-2 Gently Does It, 8-1 Chalk Your Cue, 10-1 Lady Martha, 12-1 French Lane, 14-1 Sandra Bella, 20-1 others.

2.15 WINCANTON CHASE (£2,292: 2m)

401 4010 Artifice (D), J. Thorne, 10-11-11 Miss Thorne
403 f034 Kabeau, M. Oliver, 11-11-11 .. Francome
405 -1113 Stopped (D), F. Winter, 9-11-11 .. De Haan

4-5 Stopped, 11-10 Artifice, 12-1 Kabeau.

2.45 BRUTON CHASE (Div II: Hunters: £662: 3m 1f)

502 1121- Mountolive (CD), R. Shepherd, 11-12-7 Shepherd
505 3102- Woodhay, H. Butt, 10-12-7 .... Alner
507 342-4 Alsirat, M. Wood, 10-12-0 .... Howse 7
511 Delegation, T. Tricks, 11-12-0 .... J. Frost 7
513 Freddie Froude, Mrs R. Greville-Williams 10-12-0 Mr Thompson 4
515 p/ Grecian Myth, L. Wickett, 9-12-0 .... —
517 Helsel, Mrs S. Stratton, 8-12-0 .. Wonnacott
521 p- Noosedon, R. Winslade, 9-12-0 .. Farthing 7
523 Phantom Hill, D. Turner, 8-12-0 Miss Turner 7
525 3p3-3 Precipitous, Mrs J. Baimbridge, 9-12-0 Miss Dore 7
527 St Barbe, T. Long, 10-12-0 ...... S. Long 7
530 Tula Rose, Mrs S. Kirkwood, 7-12-0 Sherwood

15-8 Mountolive, 7-2 Woodhay, 9-2 Alsirat, 8-1 Precipitous, 10-1 Tula Rose, 12-1 others.

3.15 A NOVICE HURDLE (Div I: £651: 2m)

602 Altis, T. Forster, 5-11-7 .... De Haan
605 Another Springtime, T. Hallett, 6-11-7 B. Wright 4
608 Cholsford Water, R. Keenor, 6-11-7 .... May
609 00 Clovertino, R. Dunn, 5-11-7 .... Linley
611 0 Dilson, M. Pipe, 5-11-7 .... Milliman 7
613 0 Double Barrel, W. McKenzie-Coles, 5-11-7 Hoare
615 Downton George, G. Bosley, 5-11-7 Bosley
618 0 Hugh's Folly, H. Littlewood, 6-11-7 Carvill 4
619 00 Kandacombe, R. Hartop, 5-11-7 .... Merry 7
621 p Min Samira, S. Pattemore, 5-11-7 .. Linley
625 0 Mistri, Mrs E. Kennard, 5-11-7 .... J. Guest
626 p Pearls Display, K. Cunningham-Brown, 5-11-7 Mann 7
627 Risello, J. Thorne, 5-11-7 .... K. Page
628 30 Romany Nightshade, T. Forster, 5-11-7 Mr Thomson Jones
629 Russian Prince, K. Dunn, 8-11-7 S. Knight
631 0 Tempting Fate, G. Alford, 5-11-7 .. Gebbie 4
632 0 Throne Of Grace, T. Forster, 5-11-7 Smith Eccles
633 00 Village Tarquin, R. Head, 5-11-7 .. Francome
637 0 Gold Racer, I. Dudgeon, 4-10-7 .. McCourt
639 43 Jade's Double, Mrs B. Waring, 4-10-7 Keightley 7
641 000 Mossat, B. Palling, 4-10-7 .... Candy
645 3 Royal Manx, J. Vaughan, 4-10-7 J. Williams
646 30 St William, Mrs R. Lomax, 4-10-7 Carroll

11-4 Romany Nightshade, 7-2 Jade's Double, 4-1 Royal Manx, 5-1 Altis, 8-1 Throne Of Grace, 12-1 others.

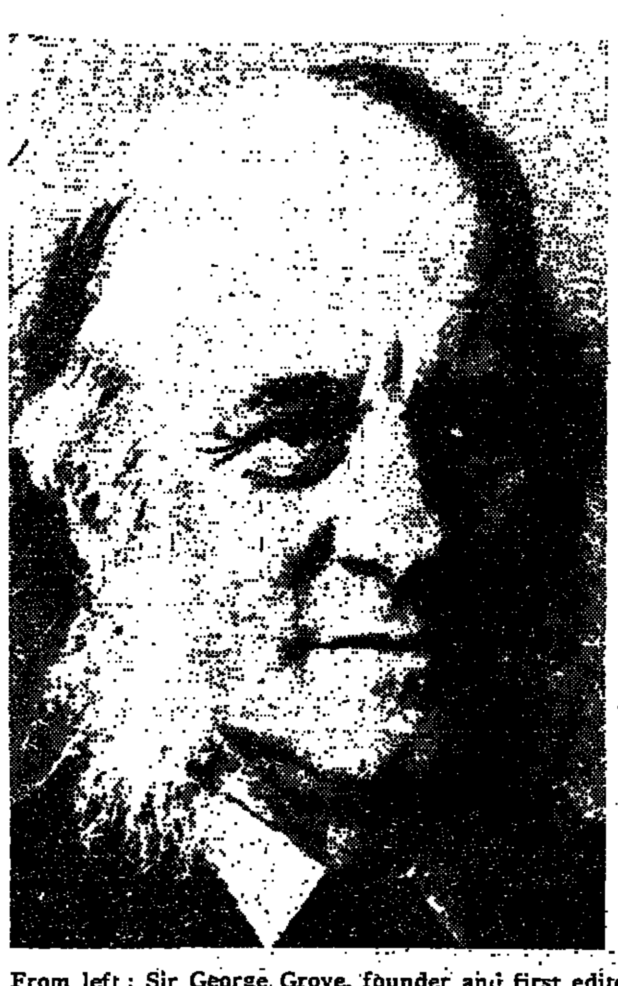
3.45 A NOVICE HURDLE (Div II: £625: 2m)

4 p0 Brown Rose, R. Armytage, 8-11-7 Champion
6 Chinky Mink, R. Dening, 8-11-7 .... King
7 Cornish Fox, W. Turner, 5-11-7 .. Turner
8 f Croydon Hall, A. Hobbs, 6-11-7 Mr P. Hobbs 7
9 243 Gilligan, T. Forster, 6-11-7 .... —
10 Just A River, R. Head, 7-11-7 .. Francome
12 0 Morning Match, P. Tory, 6-11-7 Mr Felton 7
13 p My Masquerade, K. Bishop, 6-11-7 Mr Bishop 7
14 p0 Old Mary, J. Jenkins, 6-11-7 .... —
20 14 Scots Nogger, J. Spearing, 6-11-7 .. Webb
22 Sorpresa, R. Keenor, 5-11-7 .... May
23 p0 Tartan Heath, M. Scudamore, 6-11-7 Scudamore
27 p Trojan Chief, M. Delahooke, 5-11-7 G. Jones
28 p0 Warren Express, G. Bosley, 6-11-7 .. Bosley
29 0231 Light Snacks, Miss S. Morris, 4-11-3 O'Halloran
30 3 Alanya, N. Mitchell, 4-10-7 .. McIlfatrick 7
31 10 Albrizzi, J. Jenkins, 4-10-7 .... —
32 Aleos, J. Old, 4-10-7 ...... Mr Whatham 4
33 0 Handy Dancer, A. Moore, 4-10-7 .. Moore 4
37 Lyn Affair, S. Kernick, 4-10-7 .... Kernick
38 Pharaoh's Own, A. Barrow, 4-10-7 .. Linley
39 0 Pitlochry, S. Woodman, 4-10-7 ...... Reilly
46 00 York Terrace, D. Elsworth, 4-10-7 C. Brown

5-4 Light Snacks, 4-1 Alanya, 5-1 York Terrace, 8-1 Aleos, 12-1 Albrizzi, 14-1 others.

Wincanton selections

By Michael Seely
12.45 Lord Dawson. 1.15 Easy Pickens. 1.45 The Goldstone. 2.15 Stopped. 2.45 Mountolive. 3.15 St William. 3.45 Aleos.









From left: Sir George Grove, founder and first editor of the Dictionary of Music and Musicians, and his successors, J. A. Fuller Maitland, H. C. Colles and Eric Blom

How the great Grove itself adapts to the new age

"This work", wrote George Grove in 1879 of his *Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, "is intended to supply a great and long acknowledged want". Characteristically, he attributed that want to the growing thirst for information arising from "the immense improvement in the general position of music which has taken place since the commencement of the present century". No one in Great Britain had attempted to supply the want so fully before; there had been terminological dictionaries, and some biographical ones. Grove's, published between 1877 and 1889, was the first encyclopedic music dictionary.

It was "designed for the use of Professional musicians and Amateurs alike", wrote Grove in his preface. He fixed its backward limit at 1450, "the most remote date to which the rise of modern music can be carried back". His view was essentially progressive and evolutionary: "mere archaeology has been avoided, while the connection between the mediaeval systems and the wonderful modern art to which they gave rise has been insisted on and brought out".

Grove was in the best sense a popularizer. He wanted to make musical knowledge accessible, and saw nothing disgraceful—the contrary, in fact—in a scholar's communicating with a wide audience. In the dictionary's preface, he wrote: "While the subjects have been treated thoroughly and in a manner not unworthy the attention of the professional musician, the style has been anxiously divested of technicality".

In seeking to serve "the general reader as much as . . . the musician", as his assistant and editor-to-be of the second edition, J. A. Fuller Maitland, later put it, Grove was in no sense dillettantish. While 102 of his 118 contributors were British, he did seek out eminent scholars from abroad, including men of the quality of Philipp Spitta and C. F. Pohl (whose Haydn entry included much new research, and served through to the fifth edition).

He approached editing in a thoroughly professional way. Hubert Parry, another of his assistants, recalled it: "We had some uncommonly dreary and tiresome work to do. If you could have seen the state in which some of the articles were sent in you would wonder how they were ever got into shape. I remember we had not only to recast the details of the language of many of them, but to turn the articles inside out and upside down, to put the end at the beginning and the middle at the end, and to cut out whole paragraphs of rigmarole, till we were driven nearly distracted."

Fuller Maitland's revision, published in five volumes (1904-10), did much to correct the imbalance that had arisen through the expansion of Grove's plan as the dictionary had progressed. He added corrections and additions, and pushed the date limit of 1450 backwards as scholarly developments of the time dictated. Acoustical topics were now admitted and lists of works more methodically organized.

Already, in fact, one sees the beginnings of a new kind of scholarly professionalism. Fuller Maitland was after all a trained scholar and musician in a sense that Grove, a civil engineer, was not. And while Grove had reservations about admitting anything beyond fact, Fuller Maitland believed in stylistic assessment: "such critical remarks have been admitted, even in the case of living men, as are likely to give the reader a general idea of the special characteristics of the musicians dealt with".

He also stated the case, as doubtless every editor has had to at some time, for ruthless selectivity: "no attempt has been made to include the name of every musician who might be held to deserve mention . . . the process of selection may not in every case meet with universal approval; but it has not been done without careful weighing of the claims." A dictionary, he might have added, is not a directory.

The editor of the third edition was H. C. Colles, like Fuller Maitland a critic for *The Times*. By 1927 so much had happened that direct revision was no longer possible: there were numerous new entries, of course, but also large additions to existing articles, many replacements of articles ("even some by the most eminent among Sir George Grove's contributors" disappeared), and abridgements. No dictionary can be cumulative through successive editions; each generation must reassess it according to its requirements.

People once prominent may later turn out to have been of only local or short-term importance, and have to be cut down to their new size or even omitted. All dictionaries—simply because of the time dust takes to settle—tend to be heavily weighted in favour of the century or so before their publication, and one like *Grove* which has many editions will have too prolonged a bulge unless there is fairly radical surgery. That, clearly, was evident as early as 1927. Colles was editor, too, of the fourth edition (1940), an updated reprint of the third with a supplementary sixth volume.

For more than 25 years now we have been relying on Eric Blom's fifth edition, published in nine volumes with a later supplement. This, as he said, was "the most thoroughgoing revision ever attempted", as indeed it had to be. It has of course been heavily criticized, *often unjustly. Its hints of* chauvinism are not hard to understand, remembering that it was put together just after World War II. But it made a brave attempt to comprehend much new material of all sorts; as the achievement of a single editor it is remarkable.

By the 1970s, the world of musical scholarship had so expanded that any new *Grove* had to be the product of a large editorial team. It had, too, to take account of the monumental *Die Musik in Geschichte und Gegenwart*, published in fascicles between 1949 and 1969, which set new academic standards in music lexicography. To revise the fifth edition was never a realistic possibility; too much had happened in musical scholarship, and values had changed too radically. *The New Grove* in fact retains perhaps 3 per cent of the Blom edition.

It had, in the first place, to be more international than its predecessors, in our increasingly small world. A certain favouritism towards British and other English-speaking composers cannot be excluded, nor is it improper to the chief musical reference work of the English-speaking world; but on principle a Romanian or a Uruguayan should find a place in it as readily as an Englishman or an American of equivalent achievement. This objective of consistency has had to be pursued in other ways, for example in the selection of cities on whose musical traditions there should be entries. Madrid and Mexico City, Minneapolis and Moscow belong there as well as Manchester.

Several subject areas had to be expanded if the dictionary was to serve both its traditional general public and the growing world of serious music studies. Early music, for a start—the study of medieval, Renaissance and Baroque topics has developed hugely, as indeed public interest reflects; hundreds of new (or rather, old) composers had to be entered, and those there before had to be reassessed more fully. The former, short, selective surveys of such subjects as libraries, editions, periodicals and sources had to give way to a more comprehensive coverage if to be useful beyond a dilettante level.

Similarly, articles on major composers cannot now have 60-item bibliographies, mainly of English references, but must fully represent historical and recent scholarship, irrespective of language. Non-Western and folk music are another large growth area. Grove could loftily write that "all investigations into the music of barbarous nations have been avoided"; now there can be no barbarous nations; and the music of every culture is treated. In the fifth edition India had five pages, Indonesia six; now they have 98 and 53 respectively. And new topics as diverse as Computers, Historiography, Iconography, Performing Practice and Sociology, demand to be dealt with.

Expertise is widely spread. *The New Grove* has five times as many contributors as the fifth edition, and had teams of specialist readers and editors; and Parry's words about the editorial processes of a century ago had many an echo. That is not the only respect in which *The New Grove* stands within the traditions of its precursors, but it has tried to interpret those traditions afresh in the light of present circumstances and needs for the continuing serving of "Professional musicians and Amateurs alike".

Stanley Sadie

"The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians", in 20 volumes, edited by Stanley Sadie, is to be published next week, by Macmillan.

L. S. Lowry: A Private View

Granada

John Russell Taylor

Several times recently it has seemed that BBC documentaries about art were hankering after drama, but somehow stopping short in that booby-trapped no-man's-land where an actor, soberly clad as, say, Delacroix, would intone passages from the writings in the intervals between bouts of more conventional camera rovings among masterpieces. David Wheatley's film about the life and work of L. S. Lowry wisely decides to go the whole hog, becoming an hour-long feature in which the roles of Lowry and the various important characters in his life are re-created in dramatic terms and fully acted out as in any purely fictional piece.

It is to the credit of all concerned that though Mr Wheatleys' script is very properly concerned with accuracy and fairness, the film still comes over more as a self-sufficient drama than as that usually uncomfortable hybrid a docudrama. Though danger looms at the opening, in the form of one of those non-characters, the friend who is (apparently) doing an interview and so can pop up every now and then to ask leading questions like "Was there ever a girl . . . ?", in fact the device is unobtrusive and has a lot of the curse taken off it by Bernard Hepton's ingenious creation of character from little looks and pregnant pauses. Really, though, it serves principally to get us into the story proper, and that immediately picks up its own momentum.

The main attraction of Lowry as a character is his extreme oddity and mysteriousness. He deliberately created a mystery about his lifelong job (rent-collecting), and quite cheerfully admitted to lying, or at any rate making misleading statements, about the details of his painting career to put the inquisitive or even the seriously interested off the track. And his emotional life remained his own secret—perhaps secret even from himself. Throughout his life he kept returning in his painting to the image of a young woman whom he called Ann, apparently a childhood acquaintance who he sometimes suggested had died many years before, sometimes implied was still alive.

The period background and the visual materials of Lowry's grim urban landscapes-with-figures are finely evoked, and the paintings themselves are economically used when they are relevant—particularly the increasingly anguished, expressionistic self-portraits. Malcolm Tierney, aging internally as well as externally from 20 to 88, manages to catch the pawky, ironic charm of this awkward old cuss very well, emphasizing the freedom he found within his own servitude.

Emmylou Harris

Apollo Victoria

Richard Williams

Paramount among Emmylou Harris's virtues is an interest in actively promoting the cause of those young songwriters whose work is poised between country music and rock and roll but who have yet to be taken seriously by the conservative Nashville community. On the other hand, she is criticized for the sameness of her delivery, which fails to point up the differences between the songs' individual characters.

The first half of Tuesday's concert justified such complaints. Essentially a flip through her back pages, it included Rodney Crowell's "Even Cowgirls Get the Blues", Townes Van Zandt's "Poncho and Lefty" and Willie Nelson's "Sister's Coming Home", all of which went by in an undifferentiated blur of bar-band arrangements. The exceptions were Gram Parsons' sulphurous "Sin City", deliberately paced with elegant mandolin flourishes, and "The Streets of Baltimore", which was sung very effectively by her rhythm guitarist, Barry Tashian.

Fortunately, the second half was a different story. Beginning with Dolly Parton's enjoyably mawkish "To Daddy", she went on to demonstrate that, given arrangements of suitable variety, she does have a range after all. A pleasant selection of bluegrass songs included a gentle but suitably grave "Wayfaring Stranger", before she gave us some of the songs from her new album, outstanding among which were Robbie Robertson's evocative "Evangeline", James Taylor's resigned "Millworker" and Crowell's powerfully ironic "I Don't Have to Crawl".

The surprises were her treatments of "Mr Sandman" and "How High the Moon", performed in the style of Dan Hicks and his Hot Licks. In addition to the deftness of the rhythm section and the accuracy of the close harmonies, "How High" boasted a full-blooded bebop guitar solo from the impressively articulate Frank Reckard.

Those were followed by Parsons' "Hot Burrito No 2", on which the band hit a fine low-slung groove that was almost country, almost rhythm and blues, and not quite either, and a punchy rock and roll song with rapid-fire solos all round, including a piano interlude by Don Johnson which worked in a hilarious quotation from Ramsey Lewis's "The In Crowd". Strange, though, that she has failed to master Parsons' loveliest song, "Hickory Wind"; its poignancy ought to be made for her voice, but once again she pushed its sustained notes too hard.

Patrick Magee and Helen Mirren will lead the cast in the English premiere of Brian Friel's *Faith Healer*, which opens at the Royal Court on February 25. Christopher Fettes will direct the play.

Rachmaninov outside Russia

LPO/Sanderling

Festival Hall

William Mann

It used to be supposed that self-imposed exile from his native Russia dried up the well-springs of Rachmaninov's creative imagination, exception being allowed for the Paganini Rhapsody, perhaps because it was built out of another composer's idea. By now it is clear that Rachmaninov remained a splendid composer all his life, albeit given to bouts of despondency. Life outside Russia merely changed him into a different sort of composer.

The later, American Rachmaninov was the topic of Kurt Sanderling's concert on Tuesday with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, if you concede that the metamorphosis began for him with the third piano concerto composed expressly for his debut in America, one of his very finest works and significantly different in tone of voice from what he had composed before it.

Here, at any rate, is the onset of the cooler Rachmaninov, the supreme virtuoso of the piano still, the masterly musical architect more than ever, the aching heart no longer worn on the sleeve but half-concealed beneath the famous poker-face and an almost brash energy, then considered typically American, which most likably dominates his later works—that Rhapsody, the fourth piano concerto, the Symphonic Dances, the third symphony.

Sanderling paired the third piano concerto with the third symphony. He came to Rachmaninov the other way round, a Prussian musician who fled Nazi Germany for Soviet Russia; but he understands Rachmaninov's music completely. Throughout the concert he had all departments of the LPO on their corporate *qui vive*, constantly watchful for phrasing and tone-colour.

He has a winning way with a Rachmaninov melody, flexible yet still tense, voluptuous when appropriate—as at the end of the symphony's central movement—though musical facts mean more, inferably, to him than surface glamour, and the finale sounded anti-climactic because he would not disguise its emptiness underneath smart gift-wrapping, as Ormandy, for example, so persuasively can.

At least the first two movements were marvellously interpreted, and the finale compelled attention by sheer verve and expertise. In the concerto John Lill was an equally honest soloist, cool and brilliant, strong yet delicate. His reading had to be admired, but it disappointed me because the rang and depth of keyboard colour, the fascination, of the composer's piano-playing were not there. It was like watching television in black-and-white when you are accustomed to a colour set, except that in Rachmaninov's music the colour is even more central to the experience.

Amadeus

Queen Elizabeth Hall

Noel Goodwin

Although a convalescent Siegmund Nissel was not yet well enough to rejoin his colleagues on the Amadeus Quartet on Tuesday, their programme carried the hope that he will be back for their next date here in April. Meanwhile, they were able to make the best of the opportunity for the remaining three to stay with Beethoven for this occasion, and in place of the intended quartet to remind us what pleasure is often overlooked in the string trios.

Three of the five works Beethoven wrote in this form made up the programme, the players first tackling the deceptive ingenuities of Op 3 in E flat. The fact that the composer wrote all his string trios before he was 30 and thereafter changed to quartets has sometimes been thought to suggest that he found the three-part character musically unsatisfactory or inferior (as his nineteenth century successors certainly seem to have done). Yet it only needs even part of this eariest trio to disperse any such belief.

The six movements in it bring it more into the category of a serenade, in so far as there is a Mozart model in the same key (K 563) very clearly in the background, one which the Amadeus players included in their last concert here. Their performance of Beethoven this time acknowledged its precursor in the often Mozartian terms of phrase, notably in the conversational responses of the first movement and the elegance of the two minuets, though I should have liked a more marked syncopation in the first of those.

Some slight difficulties of intonation in that work were safely resolved for the weightier matters on the C minor Trio, Op 9, No 3. Although not Beethoven's first music written in this key, it is deeply characteristic of the dramatic uses to which he later put it, and its intensity of purpose was realized by the manner in which the players carried through the momentum of each phrase, and the weight of rhythmic accents, with a marvellous account of the Scherzo.

No shadows at all were allowed to cloud the socially minded pleasures of the D major Trio, Op 8, which Beethoven properly called a *Serenata*. Here the performance had a particular delight in conveying the many and varied touches of humour from the cello, barking at his runaway colleagues as they tried to escape from the sentimental adagio, to the buoyant spirits of the Polonaise and the diversity of the variations. This was music with a smile on its face, though you would never have thought it from the solemnity of the audience's collective countenance.

Hamish Milne

Purcell Room

Max Harrison

Listening to Bach's Toccata and Fugue in D minor, originally for the organ, it was hard to know which to admire most, the music, Busoni's transcription or Hamish Milne's performance. The sheer invention with which Busoni drew from the modern piano so complete a set of equivalents to the organ's many voices, does indeed capture one's imagination, the more so as Mr Milne's playing was of such monumental clarity inescapably suggesting architectural perspectives of steel and grey stone.

Certainly his Bach-Busoni piece made a great impression of spaciousness, and it may have been the abrupt change of scale which made me wonder if the start of Haydn's D major Sonata (HOB XVI/37) ought not to have been more vehement. But not for long, because the first movement's wit and piquancy were etched so acutely. The Largo deals with more sombre aspects of experience, and one may wonder how fully it could have been projected on the light-toned pianos of Haydn's time. Mr Milne's reading was weighted so that this music's dark shadows were altogether present.

Beethoven's Sonata Op 109 emerged very much as a human document also, with the first movement's haste and hesitation suggesting the flux of experience. The explosive prestissimo was delivered with uncommon definition and with a fiercely hued tone that was still more unusual. Beethoven's concluding Variations seemed less searching than the rest of this memorable evening's playing largely, I believe, because of too fast a basic tempo.

Three of Medtner's rarely heard Skazki received performances of masterly authority, however. Their title notwithstanding, these are major statements, luxuriant in the proliferation of their textures yet deeply concentrated. The true rarity, though, was Liszt's *Reminiscences de La Juive*, which, dating from 1835, is among his initial operatic fantasias. Halevy's themes serve, indeed, merely as an excuse for one of the first great essays in romantic pianism.

It would be easy, and quite correct, to say that Mr Milne surpassed himself here, but it is more pointful to say that we were given a sense of a new world discovered.

Royal Ballet's jubilee line

The Royal Ballet's jubilee will be celebrated this summer in special seasons at Covent Garden and Sadler's Wells and on tour. Works representative of the company's history will be given, but there is also to be emphasis on the future with several new productions. They include Kenneth MacMillan's *Isadora*, to a score by Richard Rodney Bennett, which has its first performance at the Royal Opera House on April 30, and creations by several young choreographers, David Bintley, Jonathan Burrows, Michael Corder, Derek Deane and Jennifer Jackson, to be given at Sadler's Wells on April 7.

On the actual anniversary of the company's first full performance, May 5, Princess Margaret will attend the performance of *The Sleeping Beauty* at Covent Garden, with Lesley Collier and David Wall in the leading roles. That same evening at the Hippodrome, Bristol, Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet will give *The Rake's Progress* and *Façade*, with a selection of short pieces. Both Royal Ballet companies will take part at Covent Garden on May 29 and May 30 in three performances of a special anniversary programme which is being kept secret as a surprise for the audience.

The jubilee performances at the Royal Opera House will be accompanied by the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, as the Covent Garden Orchestra will then be appearing in Manchester with the Royal Opera. David Atherton will conduct a Stravinsky programme from May 22 to May 25.

BBC Television will transmit three special programmes during May, and in early June the National Film Theatre will devote a week to films featuring the Royal Ballet. There will be a costume exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum from April 8 until July 26, and an exhibition at Liberty's for three weeks starting April 29. Two books will be published to mark the jubilee: a history of the company by Alexander Bland, and a book of pictures assembled by Sarah Woodcock with text by Katherine Sorley Walker.

John Percival

Helpmann's Hamlet ballet again

The Royal Ballet is to revive Robert Helpmann's *Hamlet*, which was first presented in 1942. It will be seen first on April 2, with Anthony Dowell in the title role, as part of a quadruple bill which is completed by *Les Sylphides*, the *pas de deux* from Sir Frederick Ashton's *Sylvia* and Kenneth MacMillan's *Gloria*.

Arts agenda

■ Life for the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company may be hard at present, but from America there is evidence that Gilbert and Sullivan need not always be a road to penury: *The Pirates of Penzance* has become the sort of Broadway success which spins off endless money-making ventures.

Launched by Joe Papp's New York Shakespeare Festival in Central Park last summer, when it was reviewed in *The Times* by Clive Barnes, the production is not exactly standard G & S: the new style *Pirates* comes with a small band playing electric instruments and a cast including such rock singers as Linda Ronstadt and Rex Smith. But the new formula clearly works: it opened on Broadway last month and is already doing so well that a second company is being recruited to open *Pirates* in Los Angeles in June and then to tour throughout the United States.

A recording of the show has just been completed (although there is apparently some doubt as to whether is should be issued on a pop or classical label) and plans are now under way for a film.

■ If *Pirates* is doing well, the whole of Broadway is undergoing a boom such as it has not seen for many years. The latest figures show that audiences so far this season are 24 per cent up on last year, and takings have increased by 39 per cent.

The League of New York Theaters and Producers reported that 6,300,000 people attended Broadway shows during the first half of the season; it expected the total year's attendance to reach 11,500,000, close to the 12,000,000 record established back in 1927-28, in the palmy days before television made such inroads into live entertainment.

Among reasons cited for the upsurge are the large number of musicals currently running, since these have a particular drawing power, and also the increase in foreign tourists visiting the city—the ticket prices are less daunting for foreigners than for native New Yorkers, who have watched prices increase by 75 per cent over the past five years.

■ Christmas this year should offer at least one real attraction for children: a new full-length Walt Disney animal cartoon. *The Fox and the Hound* tells the story of a young fox cub and a hound pup who grow up as friends until nature makes them enemies. It sounds a suitably heartwarming tale for the festive season.

■ The enthusiasm for erecting sculpture in East Anglia seems to extend beyond Lowestoft, where the new statue of a sailor has caused all sorts of fuss. Norwich is also pursuing a policy of filling some of its open spaces with new works of arts.

Derek Morris, head of sculpture at Norwich College of Art, said: "There is the odd nineteenth century statue here and there but very little else. Norwich has very little contemporary anything." So the Norfolk Contemporary Art Society has already acquired two sculptures: a mother and child in bronze by George Fullard for the cathedral precinct and an abstract steel sculpture by Peter Hide, placed by the River Wensum.

Although there were no protests on the scale of Lowestoft, Mr Morris said the sculptures did get a mixed reception, and the mother and child group, "a controversial treatment of the subject", had been vandalized with spray paint.

Nevertheless the society is undaunted, and with the Norfolk and Norwich Triennial Festival it is organizing a competition for a work by a British sculptor to be placed outside the central library. The prize money is expected to be £7,000.

■ François Truffaut's latest film, *The Last Metro* has swept the board at the French film awards, the Césars. The film, about a French theatre owner who literally went underground during the German occupation and ran his shows from the cellars, won 10 of the 12 Césars, including the awards for best film, best director, best actor (Gérard Depardieu) and best actress (Catherine Deneuve). No release date for Britain has yet been decided but negotiations are in train.

■ *Here's a Funny Thing*, the show about Max Miller by Bill Shakespeare, *The Times's* Northern Industrial Correspondent, proved such a success at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith, last month that it is being brought back for Easter. The small Lyric studio was easily sold out for the initial short run, so now the show, with John Bardon as the Cheeky Chappie, will be presented in the main theatre from April 13 for two weeks.

■ *The Duchess of Chicago* and *The Queen of the Gramophone* are two of the virtually forgotten operettas which will be the subject of some resurrection work later this month by Opera Rara. On February 28 at Sadler's Wells, the company will present an evening of melodies from little-known works by composers including Offenbach, Lehar and Kalman.

NOT TO BE MISSED: The first chance to see in Britain the full three-act version of Berg's *Lulu* comes on Monday at Covent Garden, with Karan Armstrong in the title role.

Martin Huckerby

هكذا من الأصل

Arts agenda

BAD NEWS FROM CITROËN.

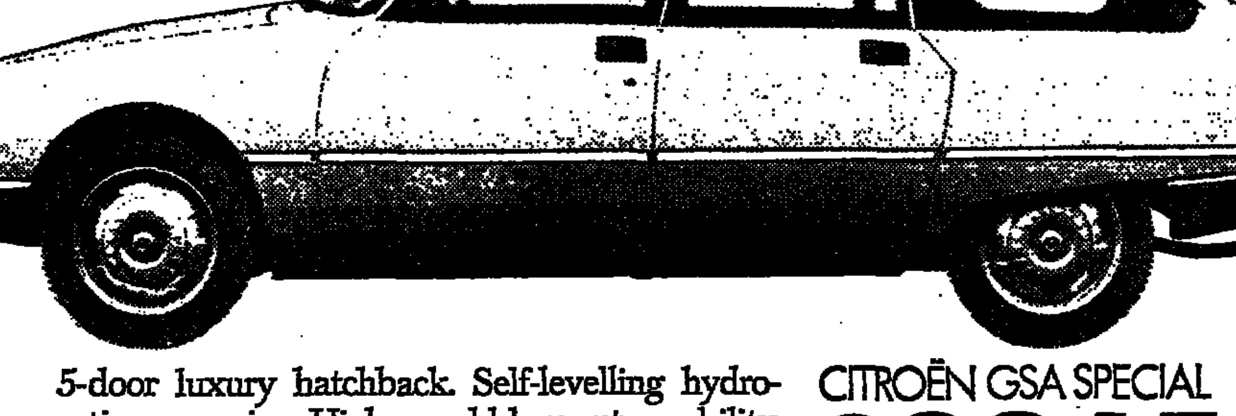
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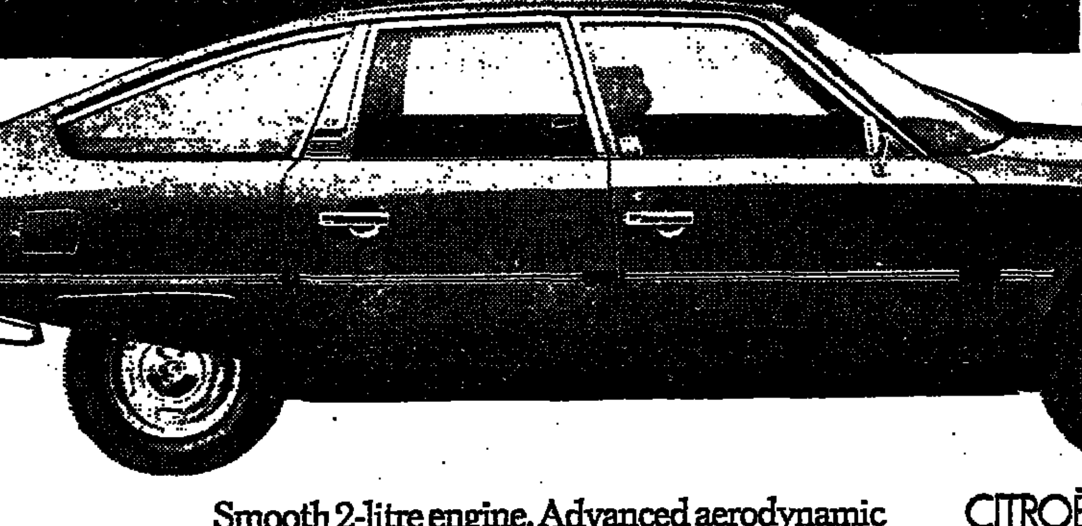
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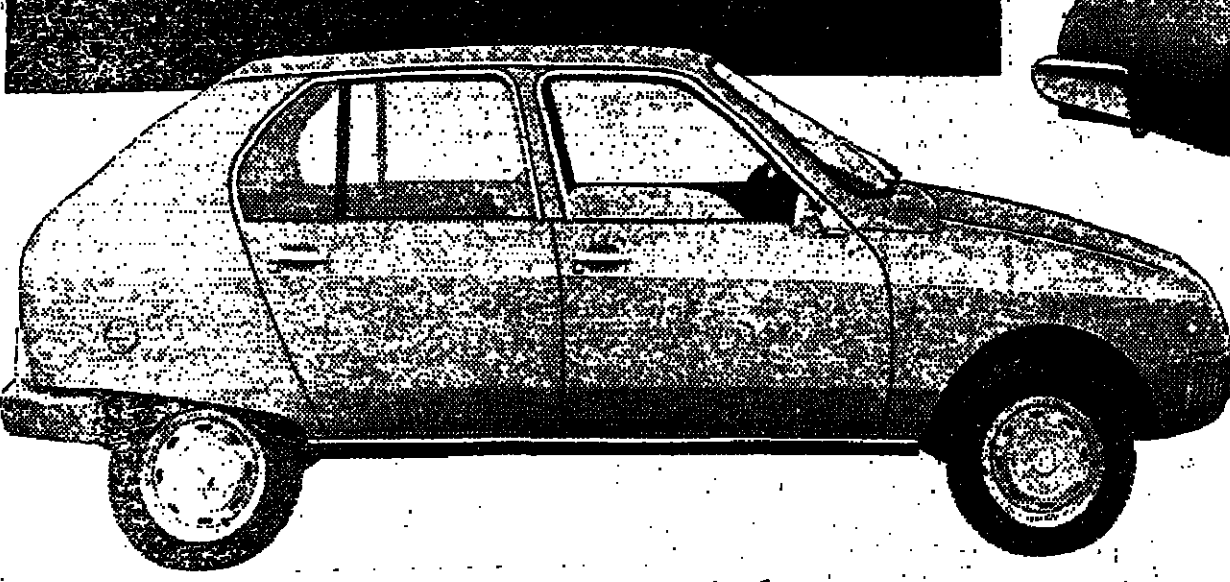
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Bernard Levin

Mrs Thatcher and the baffling case of the missing index-link

In the matter of the index-linked pensions she suddenly goes coy and hands the whole thing over to a committee who throw the poisoned chalice into the nearest dustbin and run for the hills . . .

It is said that Mrs Thatcher is displeased at the meagre results of the Scott inquiry into the matter of index-linked pensions. If she is, I can only say to her "Tu l'as voulu, Georges Dandin". Did she, or anybody in the Government, really expect anything better or other than the collection of tautologies that the inquiry has produced?

Hark: "It is a highly desirable social objective that the standard of living of those in retirement should be protected". Hark again: "Good pensions, like anything else, have to be earned and paid for during working life and the burden to be shouldered over the next 20 years will steadily grow". Hark yet again: "We suggest that the Government should look seriously at the case for issuing indexed bonds to cover pension liabilities". Hark once more: "In our work, if we have been forcibly reminded that the main objective of public policy must be to beat inflation, we have also been reminded of the serious concern that pensions over a high proportion of the private sector are not good enough". Hark finally (though I could go on for a couple of columns): "If as a society we fail to face these realities we shall find that the precept 'it is a highly desirable social objective that the standard of living of those in retirement should be protected' will be but an empty phrase".

Well, Sir Bernard Scott and his team can certainly claim to be connoisseurs of empty phrases. Indeed, it could be said that there is not a single full phrase anywhere in their report, and I have no doubt that it was only their commendable wish not to delay the birth of their mouse that prevented these eminent mountains from adding words to the effect that, other things being equal, fine weather is preferable to hailstorms, that, allowing for a proper margin of error in such complex calculations, 30 days hath September, April, June and November, and that startlingly unorthodox view though many might consider it, a straight line is the shortest distance between two points.

But my complaint today is not directed at the inquiry itself and the way in which its members have run away from every question they considered, even including the one they were not asked to consider but



did anyway. Computer scientists have a useful acronym, GIGO, which stands for "Garbage in, garbage out" and it sums up my feelings about the debacle of this report. For the truth is that Mrs Thatcher did *not* need to set up any such inquiry, and should *not* have done so. It is the job of Prime Ministers and their governments to take decisions, and it is most emphatically the job of this particular Prime Minister, if she wants to be distinguished from her predecessors by any differences more crucial than that she is the only one (so far as we know, anyway) to wear lipstick and pearls, not to take refuge behind Royal Commissions, Select Committees, Advisory Inquiries or any of the other devices for avoiding action that governments have for many years used.

Come: let me put it as starkly as possible. I voted for Mrs Thatcher for a large number and variety of reasons, but four, though not necessarily the most important, seem to me in retrospect to have assumed a profound symbolic significance. They are: that she should not give jobs in her government to people like Mr Hector Monro, that she should not give expensive quangos to people like Mr Ivor Richard, that she should not provide seats in Parliament for people like Mr Victor Matthews, and that she should make up her *own mind* on the *questions* her office obliges her to answer, and not try to avoid doing so by asking somebody *else* to answer them for her. She had already broken my first three rules, and she has now broken the fourth as well; indeed, she has done worse, for she has broken one that was not even in the original contract, to wit that if she *did* succumb to the temptation to hive off her responsibility, she should at least choose for the job a group of people who would not instantly flee from it themselves. Is she running a government or playing pass-the-parcel?

Harsh words, no doubt. But consider: suppose, instead of producing a report for which the only suitable response is a couple of tablespoonfuls of gripe-water and a vigorous patting on the back, the inquirers had delivered something that expressed a view. Suppose they had expressed the view that index-linked pensions are a scandalous form of national corruption, which should be ended immediately, or, on the other hand, that they were fully justified and essential, and that the government would be doing a most grievous wrong if they were to abolish the system, even gradually. Well? How much nearer a decision do you imagine that would have brought us all? Would not the Prime Minister and the Chancellor still be obliged, sooner or later, to decide the question, announce the details of what they had decided, and act upon it? Do you seriously believe that the country would or should take seriously a government that said words to the effect of "Oh, well, we don't have a mind of our own, you know, and these experts clearly understand such things, so we are going to do what they recommend, and any criticisms or complaints should be addressed to them, not to us"?

The word is *responsibility*, and it is no use Mrs Thatcher saying she doesn't want it, because she might as well say she doesn't like the colour of her eyes: she can't change the latter, and she can't indefinitely evade the former. Not long ago, the suggestion was made that some kind of independent body should be set up, with statutory powers to control the money supply, so that governments would no longer have recourse to the printing-press when they felt the need to pump popularity into their electoral fortunes by pumping cash into the economy. I cannot remember who put this wheeze forward, though I hope it wasn't me, because it strikes me as about the daftest notion I have heard for a very long time indeed.

Governments are elected, in countries like ours, to govern. True, they rarely do what they are elected to do, and still less often do they do it well, but that, *and nothing else at all*, is what their job consists of, and what makes the present affair all the more lamentable is that Mrs Thatcher and some of her Ministers had been showing every sign of doing their proper work for their wages; at the very least, you will surely agree that she does not appear to be a woman who doesn't know her own mind. Yet in the matter of the index-linked pensions—a matter over which, ironically, enough, she *must*, sooner or later, declare her own mind—she suddenly goes coy and hands the whole thing over to a committee, who throw the poisoned chalice into the nearest dustbin and run for the hills.

Serve her right. For in addition to the reasons, listed above, for *my decision* to vote for her, there was another, and that one the most powerfully persuasive of all. It was that I wanted a Prime Minister who could not, even in the thickest fog, be mistaken, even by the most short-sighted of observers, for Sir Harold Wilson or Mr James Callaghan. And if she is to continue to be readily distinguished from that precious pair, she had better make it clear very soon that she is *always* willing to take her own decisions.

Boswell tells of Dr Johnson taking a too hot potato in his mouth at dinner and promptly spitting it out upon the tablecloth. In the silence that followed he was heard to say coolly: "Now a fool would have swallowed that." My advice to Mrs Thatcher is to make up her mind on the question of index-linked pensions for the public service, and then swallow.

Is Spain disillusioned with democracy?

Madrid

The resignation of Senor Adolfo Suarez has left a temporary power vacuum in an already troubled Spain—whatever the intentions of the country's prime minister for the past four and a half years about attempting a comeback later.

Nerves are on edge because this is the first real political crisis since the democratic constitution came into effect in 1978 and Senor Suarez left his Centre Democratic Union (UCD), the largest party but a dozen MPs short of a majority in parliament, wracked by factional rivalries.

The UCD's party conference last weekend in Palma brought into the open these differences which are now especially inappropriate. The wife of a professor at Majorca's new university commented to me: "It seems democracy is fated to be only an interlude in Spain. After a few years of stability things start to break up. I remember in my childhood the republic began so well in 1931, but then everything was lost in the civil war."

The sense of instability is in some people's bones; in others the old authoritarian reflexes respond immediately to the power vacuum and contemporary problems like Basque terrorism, law and order, drugs among the young, unemployment, and the economic depression which have little or nothing directly to do with democracy though they all arrived in the Spanish popular awareness about the same time.

The danger point for Spain's new democracy is not now. It will come more probably if there is a succession of weak and unstable governments, whether they are built around the UCD or the socialist party (PSOE) of Señor Felipe Gonzales and especially if the accompanying economic and social problems worsen.

Many Spaniards still have little "depth" to their politics and have too quickly now become disillusioned with democracy as many were too enthusiastic about it three or four years ago. But all have votes sought by anti-democratic forces at election time.

An old army general raised his voice last weekend against all Spain's politicians, though it made little visible impact where it should have been heeded most—the UCD conference. He had been outraged by the incident in which King Juan Carlos was involved last week in Guernica at the hands of the extremist Basque nationalist party *Herri Batasuna* ("Basque Unity") and the cold-blooded killing 48 hours later by ETA Militar the more anarchically extremist of the two Basque terrorist groups, of a kidnapped nuclear engineer.

Published in *El Alcazar*, the far right daily of the Civil war combatants' association, General Fernando de Santiago, who was deputy premier in the first Suarez government, wrote: "In Guernica they insulted Spain and the King, who is the supreme commander of the armed forces and, therefore, they offended all of us who wear uniform. . . .

"The political parties at this time do not represent the people who, defrauded, have turned their backs on this concubinage. Things have gone too far, the hour has arrived that we should stop this breaking up of our national unity and save Spain."

Such old-fashioned nationalistic tones could hardly be in greater contrast to the speech Juan Carlos made after waiting patiently for the *Herri Batasuna* men to be ejected from Guernica's Casa de Juntas by security guards.

Giving an outstandingly liberal interpretation to Basque history, the King told the rest of Spain that Basque home rule, through the exercise of its *Fueros* (historic rights) had never disrupted national unity. "On the contrary", he went on, "It must be recognized that the integration of the Basque country through its links with the crown only became a problem when the traditional policy of mutual loyalties, which had been at the basis of our union, was broken."

Guernica was the highpoint of the King's visit which ended, whether serving military men approved or not, with a symbolic embrace at San Sebastian's airport between Juan Carlos and Senor Carlos Garaicoechea, Chief Minister of the new Basque autonomous regional government. The king's visit was courageous and a success in the campaign, which is now of the highest importance, to isolate ETA.

To judge by Monday's massive protest demonstrations throughout the Basque country, the *Etarras* have themselves speeded up the process by assassinating José Maria Ryan Estrada, chief engineer building the Lemoniz nuclear power plant near Bilbao. Basque workers, the class ETA claims to be fighting to "liberate", had vainly appealed to them for his life in an open letter in *Deia*, the Basque nationalist daily.

The Basque visit and the government crisis have brought the King, momentarily at least, into the political arena. Months back Juan Carlos ordered his aides to prepare a study of European constitutional precedents, for he is as much interested in a stable government being formed by the politician he nominates under article 62 of the Constitution as any Spanish democrat. The UCD politicians resist the idea of general elections while their internal conflicts persist after a series of disastrous election defeats last year—in a Seville by-election they polled only 8.3 per cent of the vote.

But the King wants to keep to the constitution—the four-year life of the legislature does not end till 1983—because he senses any departure might begin a process of unravelling *democracy*. What is at stake now is the ability of the democratic parties to give Spain good government. Franco's governments did not need to obtain popular endorsement by solving problems. Immigrant workers' remittances home, foreign investment and Spain's sunshine for the tourists during western Europe's prosperous two past decades gave the man in the street progress, however erratic.

But the UCD has now to tackle the same economic and social problems baffling other western governments and sort out its own identity. The transition period to democracy is also over for the UCD. Senor Suarez believes it is as an inter-class party that the UCD can still go on winning elections despite changed economic times.

But the other third of the party believes the UCD's future can only be as a conservative or moderate right party like those elsewhere in Europe, attending more exclusively to middle-class interests as the PSOE advances on the moderate left.

What the UCD cannot go on doing, they argue, is to keep amassing votes from all sectors of a society come newly to democracy by means of a party apparatus which derives from the Franco regime but which neglects to attend to any of that electorate's needs. All the talk in Palma about "internal party democracy" was really about having the power to respond to the interests of a clearly defined clientele. The alternatives, the critics say, is massive abstentions or a switch by electors to other parties next time.

Richard Wigg

Ronald Butt

The bogus race charges against the Nationality Bill

The Government's British Nationality Bill, which has this week begun its committee stage in the House of Commons, was scarcely in print before it was attacked by those who have vigorously resisted every proposal to control immigration in the last 40 years.

They hardly needed to read and digest it to know that it was in principle a bad Bill, and they were confident that the pressure groups which had provided them in the past with the righteous ammunition of arguments and statistics would be able to instruct them in the detail of its badness. And why was the Nationality Bill bad? Because, as their repeated argument has it, this is not so much a Nationality Bill as another immigration measure based on "race".

Yet how can this or any other Bill seeking to define nationality, and to determine a person's right to it, not be related to immigration? If the *British Isles were still, as they were* from the Middle Ages until the beginning of this century, untroubled by any attempts at large scale migration of other peoples we should not need to define nationality. What makes it necessary to do so now are the consequences of a migration that has already occurred on a scale quite unprecedented in our history and of people who in many cases do not have any affinity to the British cultural tradition—a migration that has not stopped yet.

This, of course, is the answer to Mr Roy Hattersley's claim that the Bill reverses a 700-year-old right of anyone born here to British citizenship. In fact, that ancient right was to be a subject of the crown and it made perfect sense when the difficulty of travel made impossible the sort of abuses that can occur today.

In the aftermath of the old imperial sentiment, we were naturally reluctant at first to impose restraints when the number of immigrants was comparatively small. In manageable numbers, they were welcomed, but the rate of immigration became such that efforts had to be made to control it by new laws. Each one of these was more or less rendered ineffective by the willpower of those who have opposed every immigration law and now the Nationality Bill as "racist". Their technique of opposition was simple but devastating. They created a new equation between immigration control and what *they* call "race", and they are again seeking to kill the new Bill by applying this well-tried formula to it.

So on what grounds do they attack the new Bill as "racist"? They do so because, they say, it will in practice hit people who are, in their preferred emotional terminology, "black"—by which they mean (if one must follow them in their obsession with pigmentation) mostly brown or yellow, since the extent of Caribbean immigration is no longer significant and is in any case probably easier to absorb than the culturally and linguistically more different groups from Asia.

Yet how can this or any other Nationality Bill avoid affecting mainly brown or yellow people since it happens to be principally these people who are either seeking to come in, or whose present possession of citizenship of the United Kingdom and Colonies (though giving them no right of residence here) might be cited as the basis of "moral" claim to residence in certain possible future circumstances?

The Bill's opponents claim that it has a bias against the non-white commonwealth, but this is bound to be so since it is from the non-white commonwealth that immigration (with the evasion of immigration controls) has largely come and remains likely to come. If it came mainly from the white commonwealth it would be the white commonwealth that was principally *affected by the Bill—and what* would become of the "racist" argument then?

Or let us suppose that, by some magic formula, the Indians, Chinese and Malayans whose rights are said to be affected by the Bill could be whitened; or let us pretend that they were no more different from the British majority than Poles or Germans. Would the charge of "racism" still stand against the Bill?

In their attack on the Nationality Bill, some of the religious leaders, egged on by the pressure groups



Archbishop Worlock: "It must be racist . . ."

operating on this subject inside their churches, have seemed less than rational. In the case of the Roman Catholic archibishops, led by Cardinal Hume and Archbishop Worlock of Liverpool, I will go so far as to say that their reaction has been impertinent in both the principal senses of the word—that is to say it is not pertinent to the true nature of the argument and also, in its detailed attack on a parliamentary measure, goes beyond their proper province.

In Monday's BBC *Panorama*, Archbishop Worlock of Liverpool said of the Bill: "Well, it must be racist at least, or racial at least, by implication in the sense that the cases that the Bill is really going to deal with are people who for the most part are going to be included or excluded because of where they come from and the colour of their skins."

So what would the archbishop say if the people so dealt with were white? Would is still be racist—and what is race? And is the archbishop saying that *because* the people affected principally may be brown or yellow they should be free of restraints which could properly be imposed on them, without charge of racism, if they were white?

These naive episcopal interventions are more likely to stir up racial tensions than, as the bishops obviously wish, to damp them down since they encourage the propaganda of the less responsible immigrant leaders that their communities are persecuted while adding to the feeling of many of the older inhabitants that the right of protection for the British identity is spurned.

To criticize the Roman Catholic hierarchy in this way will to some seem shocking and disrespectful, but if the bishops choose to come down into the political arena with detailed political argument, they must face the same sort of criticism that can properly be levelled at politicians.

Of course, there are always moral and religious questions underlying the law as it affects the behaviour of human beings to each other, and one such question is how we deal with people of another "race", nation or family. Of course, the archbishops have a duty to speak on the principles which should guide conduct in such matters as they do, quite properly, when they state categorically the sanctity of human life in opposing euthanasia or abortion.

Yet curiously in this matter of "race" they seem to speak with an attention to detail and an expectation that the details of the law should be written to their approval which has never applied. I think, to their approach to abortion. Here, while leaving their own flock in no doubt about what is right and while supporting attempts to tighten the law in their direction, they have never thought it right to prescribe what the law determined by the parliamentary majority should say.

Now, however, they are virtually demanding that the Nationality Bill should be written to their approval and to satisfy in detail the nine principles which they outlined in 1979. They have condemned the Bill as "misconceived" (even though the majority would support it) and have demanded that the Home Secretary should reconsider it, claiming for themselves an expertise in determining the consequences of this or that clause, for which I should have thought their qualifications were not great.

On *Panorama*, Archbishop Worlock again demanded (quite against British custom which eschews this sort of generalization) that the Bill should begin with a ringing declaration that Britain's identity is multiracial, rejecting Mr William Whitelaw's view that this is in any case self-evident. Well, let the archbishop say what he means by race, racial and multiracial since such terms, if enacted, might become a matter for the law courts. What better opportunity could he have for a return to medieval scholasticism?

Of course Britain is now multiracial in the sense that there are large and growing minorities not sharing the origin and common culture of the majority and this is not to be changed. But having accepted this, what more must the majority do to purge themselves of the bogus charge of racism?

The Nationality Bill, hardly a lion of a measure, has already been weakened on two important points under pressure. Still, it is something that an attempt is being made to define a British national for the future. It is a start towards rebuilding national cohesion. The underlying question remains: what is the morality of nationhood, that is a subject to which I hope to return.

LONDON DIARY

Polish corridor without power

One side effect of the current events in Poland is that prime ministers of that country now appear to have a security of tenure marginally less than that of English football managers. Yesterday I had the pleasure of discussing the Warsaw political climate with the Polish prime minister who has held down the job without serious challenge for the past five years.

Kazimierz Sabbat would be the first to admit he is not a serious threat to General Jaruzelski, who moved into Eastern Europe's hottest seat this week. Sabbat is a south London businessman who since 1976 has headed the Polish government-in-exile, a hangover from the last major redrawing of European boundaries at Yalta in 1945, which still maintains a brave presence at Eaton Place, SW1, with a full cabinet of 11 ministers.

Sabbat, who leads a loose coalition of independents, took power from his Socialist predecessor in 1976, and was confirmed in office in the general election of 1978, in which one quarter of the 150,000-strong Polish community in Britain voted. His greatest success in office is to have been vilified in a recent edition of the Soviet journal *Literary Gazette*, in which the Eaton Place Cabinet was described as directing the counter-revolutionary forces aimed at removing Communist government from Poland.

The Soviets were too kind; Eaton Place does not have that degree of influence.

"We are the focus of political activity abroad, and the inspiration of people at home, but I do not see us actually ever returning to take power in Warsaw", Sabbat said. "Our main purpose is to represent a true picture of Poland in the West."

The old Poland has kept a presence in London since the Polish government moved here during the war. The current president is Count Edward Raczynski, who prefers a discreet home near Harrods to the official presidential residence in Eaton Place.

Sabbat insists that the London Polish government does not engage in any kind of counter-revolutionary activity, although it does collect money and send food parcels back home.

When I spoke to him, Sabbat was surprisingly moderate in his views of his newly-installed rival in Warsaw: "There is one thing to Jaruzelski's credit; during the strikes last August he stated clearly that the Polish army should not shoot Polish workers. Whether he will be able to maintain that posture, no one knows."

His views on the Soviet threat to Poland were less compromising: "Russia has swallowed too much. Poland is a foreign body stuck in the Soviet block's throat. They do not want to spit us out, but they cannot swallow us."

Sabbat thought that direct Soviet intervention was not imminent, and that the tug-of-war between the government and the emergent workers' movements would continue for some little time yet. And if in the more distant future there were ever to be a non-Communist government in Warsaw, he conceded, it would come from inside Poland rather than from Eaton Place.

Canada calling

It is a pleasant change to be able to report political machinations concerning Canada, a nation normally regarded by headline-hungry news editors as one of the most dismally unproductive corners of the earth, at least since Margaret Trudeau took flight in search of a gayer life.

Being appointed British High Commissioner in Ottawa has not been regarded in the past as one of the more challenging posts with which to crown a diplomatic career, but the job has suddenly become, if not a hot seat, at least a fairly warm one as the fires of constitutional crisis are fuelled by dark reports of telephone bugging at the Canadian High Commission in London.

The choice of Lord Moran as our new man in Ottawa is significant. He is the son of Sir Winston Churchill's doctor who wrote a splendidly indiscreet memoir on the old man. Friends of the younger Moran who know him well say he is considerably more discreet than his father, and is an ideal man to fill a diplomatic post which has suddenly become sensitive.

Lord Moran was described to me yesterday as the model of a British diplomatic, good-looking in a very English sort of way despite his 56 years, and above average intelligence for a career Foreign Office man. (That is not to imply that all the rest are boneheads, merely that Moran is particularly articulate and well-read). In private, however, he tends to be reserved rather than garrulous.

He moves to Ottawa from Lisbon, where he was put in as ambassador after the Portuguese revolution, another case of a once-cosy posting becoming delicate and requiring the talents of a sensitive man.



Before that he was our man in Budapest.

On the other hand, friends of Mrs Jean Wadds, the Canadian High Commissioner in London, have expressed surprise at her telephonic phobia. Those who knew her in previous incarnations, first as daughter and wife of wealthy Ontario Conservatives, and later as a Canadian MP and party secretary, could not recall her clutching under desks for bugs or looking compulsively over her shoulder. I managed to find one associate who recalled having a conversation with her, spy-style, in close proximity to running water to foil the microphones, although the water was actually coming from a garden hose.

There is some doubt, however, that the leaked diplomatic cables mentioning wiretapping by the British actually emanated from Mrs Wadds, who is more of a hostess than a diplomat. When the constitutional issue began to boil last November a certain Mrs Reeves Haggan was flown in from Canada as a "special adviser" to Mrs Wadds, an attractive 60-year-old divorcee whose chief role had been to arrange supper parties at which selected victims from Westminster could be browbeaten by Canadian diplomats on the constitutional issue.

Although a Conservative by background, Mrs Wadds was confirmed in her London post when Pierre Trudeau's Liberals regained power. When Trudeau was in London last summer she was a recipient of his legendary charm—in scant evidence recently—and was apparently converted to his constitutional views.

Look in your 1981 diary, and I'll bet it says that British Summer Time begins this year on March 22. Well, it's wrong, as is every diary I have examined, with the honourable exception of the Oxford University Diary. *All others were printed before the Government's decision late last year to bring our start of summer time in line with Europe. The Royal Observatory confirmed yesterday that the correct date is March 29, so do not adjust your clocks until then, unless you wish to be done out of that hour in bed a week too soon. There is no change in the end of BST; it remains at October 25.*

Party ties

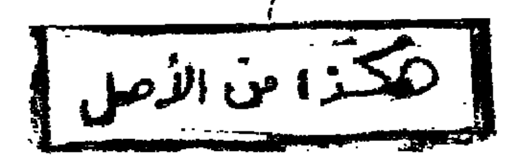
The people's flag may be deepest red, but when opening the wardrobe to select the day's necktie the representatives of the people's party at Westminster have what can only be called a hesitant loyalty to the colour.

Roy Mason, Labour MP for Barnsley, who prides himself on being able to design neckwear for any occasion at the drop of a tiepin, has produced one for the Parliamentary Labour Party, a modestly historic event when you recall that the founders of the PLP earlier this century had bowler hats specially designed for them.

Mason has produced a limited selection of ties in green, maroon and blue. The green version is selling quite well, the blue has sold out, but there appear to be few takers for the maroon. Do I detect another subtle pointer towards centrism (blue being the colour most closely associated with Limehouse, at least among the jazz fraternity), or is it just because the sartorially-conscious Labour backbenchers from the polytechnics feel that a red tie would clash with their sombre suits?

I do not mind Nigel Dempster, the Daily Mail*'s stylish raker of inconsequential muck, writing mischievous stories about the misdeeds of newspapers owned by Rupert Murdoch. But when he warns this newspaper in Latin of what it might expect under a new proprietor,* Caveat fabri Temporum, *he could at least try to get his grammar right; workers of* The Times *are plural. His piece, incidentally, was about factual errors.*

Alan Hamilton



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DOOMED FROM THE START

Inevitably, a storm of protest has greeted yesterday's much heralded and widely feared announcement by the French-owned Talbot company that it intends to close its Scottish car plant at Linwood. Mr Bruce Millan, the Shadow Scottish Secretary, calls it "absolutely disastrous news" and wants everything possible done "to prevent this catastrophe happening". Mr John Davidson, the Confederation of British Industry's Director in Scotland, describes it as a "major blow to the economy of the west of Scotland". Mr Donald Stewart, MP for the Western Isles and leader of the Scottish Nationalists at Westminster, regards the blow as "critical" and Mr Jimmy Milne, general secretary of the Scottish TUC, has suggested that his movement will support Linwood workers if they decide to fight the shutdown.

The impact of the French decision on Scotland, with its particularly high level of unemployment, will indeed be extremely severe. Nearly 5,000 jobs will go directly at Linwood. Although the British Steel Corporation claims that the plant takes only about a tenth of its output from the Ravenscraig plant, that hard-pressed industry will also suffer. There will be repercussions, too, among component suppliers, and for commercial undertakings in the immediate vicinity of the plant.

Yet to call upon workers and the British Government to fight the French decision, while understandable, is almost certainly both wrong and unhelpful. Linwood's problems go back many years—to a time, indeed, before the plant was even built.

The first mistake was made by the Macmillan administration, when it took its "Solomon's judgment" to erect not one major sheet steel-producing plant but two, in South Wales and Scotland. This muted the clamour from the two regions for consideration where the provision of jobs was concerned, but it left Scotland with a plant that lacked adequate outlets for its products. Linwood was erected by the old British-owned Rootes organization to build the new Hillman Imp and, in part, to fill this gap.

When Rootes got into difficulties the Labour Government, mindful of the impact on its electoral prospects of more redundancies in Scotland, decided to support a rescue operation mounted by America's Chrysler Corporation. In doing so it flew in the face of advice given by its own experts. And when Chrysler found that it, too, had had enough, the new straw offered by the giant French Peugeot-Citroën group was seized.

Linwood's early troubles came, in large part, from bad industrial relations, low productivity and—later—aging models. Recently, productivity has shown a marked improvement and disputes have lessened. But these changes for the better have clearly come too late.

The French multinational, like its counterparts throughout the Western world, is in the grip of the worst recession in post-war history. Some 23,000 of its home-based workers are on short time, its losses are mounting, and it clearly believes that there are other and potentially more profitable plants than Linwood at which to build its replacement family car for the Peugeot 104.

Even with a sizable measure of financial support from the present British Government, which would have been forthcoming, it cannot see the Scottish plant becoming viable.

This is the kind of decision that a commercial undertaking, as distinct from a government or from individuals quite properly concerned with social implications, is best qualified to take. There is no point in pouring more money into an operation which had a doubtful genesis and which was propped up by the British Government under American pressure in the '70s and against the best advice of those charged with examining its problems.

The energies of those concerned with the totally unacceptable level of unemployment in Scotland—and the concern should be shared by everyone—must now be directed not at destructive criticism of the French, but at constructive suggestions designed to produce work of value.

There are several lessons to be learned from the Linwood affair. One is that "undertakings" of the kind given first by Chrysler and then by Peugeot, however well intentioned, cannot guarantee jobs; another, that improvements in productivity and labour relations cannot and must not be deferred in today's harsh economic circumstances; a third, that the provision of limitless sums of both public and private money will not sustain enterprises whose products have little appeal; and above all, that the survival, or extinction, of Britain as an industrial nation ultimately depends entirely on its own enterprise and endeavours.

IN DEFENCE OF WESTERN VALUES

In many ways it is an odd time for the Committee for the Free World to bring itself into existence. At its inaugural press conference on Tuesday this multinational of concerned intellectuals said in a prepared statement that "free societies are coming increasingly under attack... Our aim is to alter the climate of confusion and complacency, apathy and self-denigration, that has done so much to weaken the Western democracies in the face of growing threat to their continued viability and even their existence as free societies". It went on to assert that in the mass media, institutions of higher learning and "among intellectuals generally" it had now become nearly orthodox to assert that the freedom of free societies was a sham. Such denigration of western values, it fears, could lead to totalitarianism of the left.

This is difficult to swallow. The general climate of public and intellectual opinion is probably less sympathetic towards Soviet communism than at almost any time since 1917. The Soviet model has manifestly failed wherever it has been tried, and even the attempts of the new left to attribute its failures to Russian traditions rather than structural defects has had only limited success. The intellectual challenge to the principles of plural democracy is surely on the wane, at any rate in comparison with the late sixties.

The new committee must therefore be careful about attributing the west's lack of confidence and general mental confusion to the influence of the left. The west is confused and worried because it faces huge and difficult problems. Some parts of the left aggravate these problems by conspiring within the unions and the Labour Party and by promoting policies which, if carried out, would weaken the west's military defences. Against these activities the country needs to be alerted, and indeed has already been alerted. But the notion that there is a general conspiracy of left wing totalitarianism pervading the country, and in particular the media, is exaggerated.

If the new committee is to be effective—and it deserves to be because most of its members and principles are admirable—it must avoid being regarded as a right-wing pressure group. The right has no property rights over western values. The essential basis of western political culture is the belief that nobody has access to a single truth and that we can grope forward only by jealously preserving space for the market place of conflicting ideas. In this market place the criticisms, challenges, dissatisfactions and worries of the left are as necessary as those of the right.

If the Committee for the Free World devotes itself to rational argument it will perform a very valuable function. If it occupies itself with searching out conspiracies, or if it equates criticism with subversion, it will isolate itself in an intellectual ghetto as unproductive as that in which too many leftists also seek refuge.

GRUBBING FOR VOTES

One should never be surprised at the twists and turns of the French Communist Party. Its latest notion is to make a thinly disguised appeal to racialist feelings in France, and in particular to those who are resentful of the presence of immigrants from North Africa and elsewhere. Last December a raid was made on a hostel for immigrant workers from Mali in the Paris suburb of Vitry, apparently led by the Communist mayor; gas, electricity and water were cut off, and doors, staircases and windows were blocked by earth and rubble pushed up by bulldozers. Last weekend another Communist mayor in Montigny-les-Cormeilles, another Paris suburb, collected a group of about 50 supporters and led a demonstration outside a building where a Moroccan family lived, accusing the father of the family of being a drug trafficker.

No one denies that the presence of immigrant communities creates problems in France. Many of the immigrant workers are paid very low wages and live in virtual ghettoes, cut off from their surroundings. But the way in which the Communists are now drawing attention to them, and blaming the government of President Giscard d'Estaing for their existence, is calculated to appeal to a xenophobia which is never far below the surface. The incidents in Vitry and Montigny were only the most outrageous in what appears to be a deliberate campaign, backed by M Marchais, the party's secretary general; and the only possible explanation is that, faced with the prospect of doing badly in the first round of the presidential election in April, he has decided that this is the card to play. Certainly that is the way it is seen by discontented members of his own party.

After the incident in Vitry, M Marchais made a speech in which he attacked the policy of allowing immigrant workers into France "at a time when we have two million French and immigrant people on the dole". He then led a march by 10,000 supporters through Vitry in support of the mayor, to the accompaniment of banners proclaiming "No to ghettos in Vitry".

In Montigny the mayor said that he had received a letter denouncing the Moroccan as a drug trafficker, and he accused the police of doing nothing about drugs in the area. He described the demonstration as an attempt to counter the drug traffic. Since then he has been sharply criticized by the Socialists and, not surprisingly, representatives of the government. But he has been supported by senior members of the Communist Party, including M Pierre Juquin, a member of the political bureau, who said that there was a threat to French youth, and the party would not stand idly by.

The election is an important one for M Marchais because he has to maintain the Communist vote, or see a manifest decline in the party's influence. But the party's traditional voters are upset by the switches of policy over the last few years. In 1968, the French Communists condemned the invasion of Czechoslovakia. For a time they adopted a Eurocommunist line of independence of Moscow and backed an alliance with the Socialists. But in 1977 they broke with the Socialists at a time when together they might have won the parliamentary elections, and since then they have reverted to a pro-Moscow line. They have vigorously defended the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. The latest switch of policy is a demand for places in the government of M Mitterrand, the Socialist candidate, if he wins the election, after three years of bitter attacks on him. It is not surprising that the party's supporters are confused. But it shows a depth of cynicism to try to bolster them with a bigoted and racialist blue-collar vote.

Trade with Eastern Europe

From Mr A. L. Stacpoole

Sir, Sir Richard Dobson (January 30) has asked an important leading question and it deserved a serious, balanced reply. Should we not, asks Sir Richard, sustain trade sanctions against the USSR because it is still in Afghanistan? No, we should not. It would be a useless, sentimental gesture akin to the Anglo-French guarantee of Poland before the last war. So much for the serious reply; now for the balance.

What we should do is to try to understand something about the fundamental significance of East-West trade. It is wrong to say that the level of East-West interdependence is low. According to one recent unchallenged commentary, no less than 25 per cent of West German trade is done with the Eastern block, as much as Federal German Republic-United States trade.

It has been said that, if international opinion is again flouted as seriously as in the cases of Afghanistan or Czechoslovakia, then some West European nations are ready to cut off all trade with the block. If this is so, we ought at this time to be asking ourselves whether we would be prepared to follow them. If the Alliance is to mean anything in the present situation we should be ready with definite responses to designated moves from the other side. This time public opinion should be prepared in advance.

It is most important to be clear that any interruption of East-West trade for political reasons would be taken very hard by the other side. Whilst we might envisage the interruption as being in the nature of a temporary sanction, it would be most likely that they would react to it as a prolonged rupture. It follows that the effect would be long-term and deep. For instance, where would the Germans turn for that lost 25 per cent of their trade? In other words, the move would hurt us as well as them and have repercussions which might surprise the public, in the light of their present information.

It is only in discussing these important questions at length and in detail that the nature of the problems which we face can be understood. There is another aspect of this which seems to me to be equally important. It must surely make a difference to the other side's selection of its options if it realizes that we understand them and are ready to face the consequences of taking the necessary measures to deal with challenges.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY STACPOOLE,
24 Landridge Road, SW6.
February 4.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The political importance of Mrs Williams

From Sir Ronald Millar

Sir, You accurately pinpoint Mrs Shirley Williams in today's leader (February 10) as "this somewhat indecisive woman, of middling intellectual attainments, and mistaken views". You then suggest that "she would make a good Prime Minister".

Are indecisiveness, a middling intellect and mistaken views really the qualities Britain needs to lead the nation in a nuclear age? I would have thought the rigour, the resolve, the total determination of a Churchill would be rather more appropriate.

We are fortunate to have a Prime Minister with just those qualities. Let us stand firm alongside Margaret Thatcher until her lonely, often uncomfortable, far from gentle but wholly crucial work is done—and that means into and beyond the next election.

The lady's for returning.

Yours faithfully,
RONALD MILLAR,
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1.
February 10.

From the Dean of St Catherine's College, Oxford

Sir, The support which the public opinion polls show for a centre coalition offers the chance of reversing the alienation of the electorate from the democratic process. It is, after all, more than 20 years since the two major parties, in 1959, captured the imagination of the electorate.

The crack in the old system has shown itself, by a combination of historical circumstances, in the Labour Party. But we all know that the present Conservative Cabinet is as divided as any Labour Cabinet has been, and the crack could have come anywhere. Those who are ready to leave the Labour Party receive much opprobrium and, what must be more painful for them, they have to accept the fact that so far it is the moderates who have split, not the party as a whole. But in the course they are taking they have shown unchallengeable political judgment on two points of overwhelming importance.

First, they know when to accept defeat. The campaign against Callaghan, the defeat of Healey and the humiliation of Foot are not to weep tears over, but are political facts which must be accepted. To cherish the idea of repeating Gaitskell's comeback in 1961 while lacking any one of his assets—decisive union backing, a constituency campaign in his support and widespread popular esteem—is to live in cloud-cuckoo-land. To fight on a different battleground is not.

Second, they do not want to live in a Britain programmed by the left; they want neither a siege economy, nor enabling laws nor oaths of loyalty, nor socialist regulation, and they do not want those who talk of these things to capture power. Is there any rationality in remaining their allies?

Still it must be emphasized that what is important in British politics is the realignment which the Labour division makes possible. The historical development is more important than its cause. How that development will now proceed is impossible to predict but the starting point is clear. The centre coalition is still in its formative stage but it already enjoys widespread electoral support. It can unite on an immediate programme of electoral reform and it is firmly based on an enduring consensus in its pragmatic approach to the problems of industrial efficiency and human welfare.

Yours faithfully,
WILFRID KNAPP,
St Catherine's College,
Oxford.

From Mr J. R. L. Cuningham

Sir, In your leading article of today (February 10) you say of Mrs Shirley Williams: "There is no politician who is more completely a democrat" and also: "She wants to abolish private education". Such a position is irreconcilable.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN CUNINGHAM,
Investment Research,
28 Panton Street,
Cambridge.

From Wing Commander John Boston

Sir, Thank God for your leading article today. People of all parties I meet are agreed about one thing, and that is that we have never been so deeply divided as we are today, and, in my opinion the situation is desperately urgent. Your leader is quite admirable.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN BOSTON,
38 High Street,
Sevenoaks, Kent.

From Mr D. C. Damant

Sir, In your leader, "The sooner the better", you state that the two old parties are widely seen as having failed. Does this mean that the nation—or you yourself—will see as failure any attempt to solve the economic problems of the country without unpleasant side effects lasting more than a year or two? In which case it seems unlikely that we can ever escape from inefficiency and relative poverty. Or do you argue that only politicians such as Mrs Williams can persuade people to accept the right policies? In which case your leader might have considered what the policies of any new party might be and not just its political appeal.

There is no reason why the right economic policies should be intuitively and politically reasonable, particularly if the consumer is required to accept less wealth and more risk as an investment for the future.

Yours faithfully,
D. C. DAMANT,
16 Orchard Street,
Cambridge.
February 10.

From Mr A. G. Fathers

Sir, Your leader today generates a lot of warmth for Mrs Williams. But for me you are no more than echoing the cry of fudge, fudge and fudge again of the years of the Butskellite reign up to 1979.

It may be that the ideals of Mrs Thatcher will fail. Certainly they are not popular, and to a great extent are not being implemented by the "wet" Cabinet over which she currently presides. But to categorize the present Government as one of "two old parties widely seen as having failed" seems odd. Mrs Thatcher deserves more than to be tarred with the brush of Mr Heath, and of the Whitehall-knows-best corporatism of the Labour and Conservative Administrations which preceded her. Professor Hayek may doubt that she is going fast enough: at least he says (which is more than he said for Mr Heath) that she is going in the right direction.

Mrs Williams—"this somewhat indecisive woman, of middling intellectual attainments"—will take us straight back to policies which have failed. Mrs Thatcher, the first genuine right-wing, market-orientated Prime Minister since the war, is at least giving us the chance of breaking out of our dismal postwar mould.

Yours faithfully,
A. G. FATHERS,
Orchard Mount,
613 Upper Richmond Road West,
Richmond, Surrey.

From Mrs A. M. Stewart-Wallace

Sir, A leader which invokes a clarion call ("the sooner every party breaks up the better") from that most indecisive and nervous of all fictitious characters, Mr Woodhouse, to launch a new political party and then proceeds endearingly to tell us that The Times has never agreed with any Prime Minister since Neville Chamberlain, is a pure delight. The Times must survive.

Yours, etc,
MARY STEWART-WALLACE,
The Moot House,
Ditchling, Sussex.

Rule of law in Malta

From the Attorney General of Malta

Sir, In your leader of February 10, under the title "The rule of law in Malta", you refer to a Bill currently before the Maltese Parliament, and you state as follows: "Once the Bill is passed, the courts will have no powers to rule on the validity of 'any act or other thing done by the Government, or by any authority established by the constitution, or by any person holding public office, in the exercise of their public functions'."

The article then goes on to pass judgment on Mr Mintoff and his Government. This part is mostly an expression of opinion, and each is entitled to his own.

The purpose of this letter is to correct the wrong impression your readers must have gained from the part of the Bill which was quoted. Your conclusion is that once the Bill is passed an act of the Maltese authorities may not be challenged in a court of law even if it is null or invalid. This is the opposite of the truth.

The Bill before the Maltese Parliament provides expressly and unequivocally that the validity of an act of the Maltese authorities may be challenged in a court of law in any one of three cases: If it is ultra vires those authorities, if it is in violation of a written rule of law, or if the authorities fail to observe due form in a material respect and such non-observance causes substantial prejudice.

To the best of my knowledge this position is not far from that which obtains in most democratic countries, including Britain. In our case it was felt that the legal position was unclear and consequently that it should be defined by Parliament, which is not only the highest institution in a democratic state but also the one entrusted with the prime duty of stating the law to be observed by its citizens.

I may add that our courts can inquire into the validity not only of acts of government but also of acts of Parliament. They can examine and decide whether a law passed by Parliament is or is not in violation of the Constitution and, in particular, whether it encroaches on any of the fundamental human rights enshrined in the Constitution. This position will remain unchanged under the new Bill.

Correct me if I am wrong, but as far as I am aware this is a power which the courts in Britain do not have. Does that make Malta less democratic than Britain, or less observant of the rule of law?

Yours etc,
EDGAR MIZZI,
Attorney General's Office,
The Palace,
Valletta, Malta.

Closed shop counterpoint

From Mr Alan Campbell, QC

Sir, The closed shop has the support of many employers as a matter of convenience, and of most trade unionists as a matter of conviction. The cautious advance by her Majesty's Government into this potentially explosive area with the introduction of a "conscience clause" and special provisions to limit secondary action to compel trade union membership was fully justified.

However, the question remains as to whether further steps should be taken to protect the rights of individual workers who do not wish to join a trade union so as to safeguard their freedom of choice. Is the code of practice an appropriate expedient: should the emphasis shift from solatium to safeguard: is the reintroduction of a system of positive rights requisite in this regard?

The resolution of these questions warrants time and care, as any policy decision to shift the balance will have important political and legal repercussions. The Green Paper (Cmnd 8129), as is the intention, affords invaluable material for constructive discussion—and perhaps it is also worth recording the view of Mr Gunter, when Minister of Labour:

"I have opposed the closed shop throughout the whole of my trade union career, not because of tenderness for a few who have conscientious objections, but for the other reason that it means too great a concentration of power" (Hansard—February 16, 1965; vol 705, cols 1019-20).

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
ALAN CAMPBELL,
1 Harcourt Buildings,
Temple, EC4.
February 9.

Family matters

From Dr A. R. Rogers

Sir, When Lady Grantchester mentions the ethical and professional standards of doctors (February 9) she gets at the very centre of the under-age sex issue.

Contrary to the advice from the British Medical Association and the Department of Health and Social Security, the decision to give a child under sixteen contraceptive advice is never the decision of the doctor. A doctor's medical knowledge enables him or her only to judge the type of contraception which might be suitable for an individual based on medical facts and that individual's medical history.

The decision to provide or not to provide contraception for a particular age group is a moral and legal one made by parents and by society as a whole.

Legally and morally parents have a right to consent to any medical or surgical procedure recommended by a doctor for their child and for this reason the confidence a doctor has with a child extends to include the child's parents or guardians.

Where a doctor has reason to believe that the parents may be "unconcerned, entirely unresponsive or grossly disturbed" that is the very worst situation in which to issue contraception. It is clearly in the child's interest for a doctor in such a situation to seek the care and supervision of the local authority and this is within the meaning of the Children and Young Persons Act 1969.

If the nation's teenagers are entitled to run into Brook advisory centres or family planning clinics and obtain contraception, albeit in "exceptional circumstances", exceptions will become—and are quickly becoming—the rule and the whole principle of protecting children within a family will have been thwarted and irreparably damaged.

Children under sixteen have no place in such clinics and family doctors should be far better equipped to deal with such a serious family crisis without practising expediency and signing a scrip for the pill. Such children need help, not contraception.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN ROGERS,
Chairman, Responsibility in Welfare,
1 Victoria Park Road,
St Leonards,
Exeter, Devon.

Pension privileges

From Mr David Green

Sir, There are in fact three nations for pensions purposes, not two. Although the self-employed share with the privately employed the disadvantages of inflation exposure, most private pension schemes are at least geared to retirement age salaries. Only the self-employed face the disaster of having to invest today's income at today's prices—and then see that endowed provision wiped out by subsequent inflation. Not—frequently—is self-employment a matter of choice. In many professions it is an obligation: in many less privileged parts of the country, such as this, it is the only alternative to unemployment.

To many in that third nation one thing is patent: beyond any other group in the economy, the group at present privileged to enjoy index-linked pensions also contains those who preeminently are in a position to determine whether there will be inflation. The self-employed go to jail if they print money: the civil servant enjoys a handsome personal indemnity if he does. Inflation is also concerned with attitudes and propensities. Conquering it may require that no one be immune.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID GREEN,
Rhyd yr Harding,
Castle Morris,
Haverfordwest,
Dyfed.
February 6.

Battle for the countryside

From the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry

Sir, During your lengthy and high minded correspondence about the fate of the countryside and conservation, it is surprising how little diagnosis has been made of the root causes of the concern so many express.

Assuming that there is a declining trend, it is surely all the more necessary to reverse it by seeking remedies to those causes.

These are clearly identifiable as:
1. the break up of family estates, the traditional guardians of the heritage for 500 years, and
2. the ensuing economic pressures on those who purchased the fragments.

The phrase "good estate management" automatically means, as it has done for centuries, a balanced approach to the treatment of the countryside that simultaneously caters for such varied interests as the economic production of food and timber, public amenity and sport, and wildlife conservation and landscaping in a constantly changing and never static setting, all harmoniously blended into a cohesive plan with a time scale of one hundred years or more.

Too often starry eyed conservationists have backed those promoting the fragmentation process, and too late do they realise the inevitable truth of the hackneyed adage about geese and golden eggs!

Yours faithfully,
BUCCLEUCH,
Bowhill,
Selkirk,
Scotland.
February 6.

Civil liberties

From Mr H. Justin Evans

Sir, You give frequent and extensive publicity to reports and statements issued by the National Council for Civil Liberties but, in the years I have been studying the question, you have never given your readers any indication of the nature, number or allegiances of the individuals or organizations who support it, the methods by which its committees are appointed — in short, no evidence that would justify the high-sounding title National Council for Civil Liberties, which implies a national and authoritative backing and to whose stated aims no right-minded person could object.

Yet, a reading of the material emanating from the NCCL would suggest that, far from being national, it is small and highly selective in its membership; its committee seems to me predominantly composed of left-wing elements, and its public pronouncements generally come, pat and predictably, from its paid officials.

Far from promoting "civil liberties", its main aim seems to be to undermine public confidence in the established forces of law and order, notably the police authorities. No published evidence or verdicts by judges or jurors seems to weaken its support for such figures as the Grunwick pickets, Jimmy Kelly, Astrid Proll, Jamie Dunbar, Blair Peach, so-called "gay workers" or any prison inmate who complains of his treatment for disciplinary offences.

I may well have formed a biased view of the NCCL's activities, but a careful reading of the report by its "Unofficial committee of inquiry into Southall, April 23, 1979," published last April and referred to, with its later supplement, in your issue of January 7, has done nothing to change that view in spite of the philosophical eminence of its chairman. Its one-sided tendentiousness can rarely have been equalled. It is worth reading by those who wish to be better informed about the work and attitudes of the NCCL.

Yours faithfully,
JUSTIN EVANS,
Globe House,
Church Stretton,
Shropshire.

The cost of dying

From the Dean of Exeter

Sir, There is really no need for the somewhat macabre remedies proposed by Mrs Rhodes (February 4). A simpler and less disturbing remedy lies in the revival of the use of the shroud in which to be buried. Under this method the corpse lies upon what is essentially a wooden tray with an opaque material stretched over it, allowing the shape of the body to be seen but not its details. There is nothing offensive in this and it uses under half the amount of wood needed for a coffin.

I can see no intrinsic virtue in being immured in a box when one is dead. To show that this is not mere pious theory, I have left instructions that I should be interred in a shroud.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD EYRE,
The Deanery,
Exeter.
February 5.

Underwater archaeology

From Mrs Margaret Rule and Mr R. E. Sutcliffe

Sir, The grave concern expressed by Mr. Flinder (February 4) about the proposed Health and Safety Diving Regulations is shared by members of the Council for Nautical Archaeology.

Major archaeological underwater excavations already conform to the requirements of the proposed regulations, but the extension of these requirements to small groups of amateur divers working under the direction of professional diving archaeologists would impose severe strains on a naturally delicate relationship.

To operate an underwater expedition with dual safety standards, one for the "professionals" and one for the "amateurs", would be unthinkable, but the very nature of amateur archaeological exploration and the limited funds and equipment usually available preclude the provision of the extensive "back-up" facilities demanded by the new regulations.

Members of this council (a charitable body), who have given freely of their time and their expertise to assist amateur groups in the past, would be prevented from diving as "professional diving archaeologists" in similar circumstances in the future.

The same regulations would prevent diving journalists and photographers from covering the underwater activities of small amateur groups.

The amateur diving standards in the United Kingdom are acknowledged as among the highest in the world, and at present a handful of professional archaeologists are prepared to advise amateurs whilst diving to the safety standards of the amateur sports diver. This would be effectively prevented in the future if the proposed regulations become law.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET H. RULE, Secretary,
R. E. SUTCLIFFE, Chairman,
The Council for Nautical Archaeology,
c/o Institute of Archaeology,
31-34 Gordon Square, WC1.
February 6.

In vulgar parlance

From the Reverend D. G. Richards

Sir, Under Reverend in the Pocket Dictionary read "Deserving reverence by age, character or associations . . . especially as a prefix to clergyman's name . . . Vulg: Rev or the Rev Smith . . ." And on page 8 today (February 7) there it is in vast capitals: "The Reverend Maturin and Mr Melmoth".

Should I be more annoyed at Mr Richard Holmes's constant error in his article or be overjoyed that your leader referred to Mr Paisley, a man certainly not deserving of reverence by age, character or associations?

Yours faithfully,
DEREK RICHARDS,
The Rectory,
Barmouth,
Merioneth.

Puddings that may require excuses



Shona Crawford Poole

If you are on a slimming diet read no further this week because the subject is puddings, fattening puddings, the kind of puddings many of us avoid most of the time. Digging the garden is a good excuse for puddings like these. They are also fruity, filling, and easy.

Suet puddings of any description were always greeted with loud cries of "ah duff" when I was a child and I assumed it was one of those idiotic family traditions. However the *Shorter Oxford Dictionary* knows all about duff being a flour pudding boiled in a bag. Cloths have given way to pudding basins now, thank goodness, and duff is the lighter for it.

Why Sussex pond pudding is attributed to that county is not clear. The pond is obvious as soon as you cut into the rich suet crust and find a whole lemon surrounded by buttery syrup which quickly makes a puddle if not exactly a pond. It is a fresh tasting pudding.

Sussex pond pudding
Serves four to six

225g (8oz) self raising flour
¼ teaspoon salt
110g (4oz) shredded suet
About 120 ml (4 fl oz) iced water
110g (4oz) butter, diced
110g (4oz) Demerara sugar
1 large lemon

Sift the flour and salt into a bowl. Add the shredded suet and mix lightly with a fork to distribute it evenly. Make a well in the centre of the flour and add the water, a little at a time, to make a soft dough. You may not need all the water and a knife is the best instrument for the mixing. Knead the dough lightly on a floured surface until it is free of cracks and roll it out to a thickness of about 7mm (¼ inch).

Cut a quarter segment from the dough and set it aside for the lid. Use the remaining dough to line a well buttered 900 ml (1½ pints) pudding basin. Dampen the edges to be joined to make a seal.

Put half the diced butter in the bottom of the basin. Prick the lemon all over with a skewer and sit upright in the butter. Cover it with the sugar and remaining butter. Roll out the reserved dough for a lid. Dampen the edges and press it gently into place. Cover the basin with a layer of greaseproof paper and foil folded together with a 2.5 cm (1 inch) pleat and tied on tightly with string.

Stand the basin in a saucepan and pour in boiling water to come one third of the way up its sides. Cover the pan tightly and simmer the pudding for 3½ hours. Top up the water level from time to time using boiling water and never allowing the water to go off the boil.

Rest the pudding for a moment or two before turning it on to a deep plate. Make sure each serving includes a slice of the lemon as well as a spoonful of syrup.

Eve's pudding
Serves four

450 g (1 lb) cooking apples, peeled, cored and sliced
85 g (3 oz) Demerara sugar
1 teaspoon finely grated orange or lemon zest
55 g (2 oz) softened butter
55 g (2 oz) caster sugar
85 g (3 oz) self-raising flour
1 large egg, beaten
A little milk

Butter a pie or souffle dish of approximately 1 litre (1¾ pints) capacity and arrange the apple slices in the bottom. Sprinkle with the Demerara sugar and orange or lemon zest.

In a bowl cream the butter and add the caster sugar. Beat until the mixture is pale and fluffy. Beat in alternate spoons of sifted flour and egg until all of both have been incorporated. Stir in enough milk to make a mixture which will just drop from a spoon.

Spread the sponge mixture over the fruit. Bake the pudding in a preheated moderately hot oven (190°C/375°F, gas mark 5) for 35 to 45 minutes (depending on whether the dish is shallow or deep), or until the sponge is well risen and golden brown. Serve hot or warm with thin cream or top of the milk.

Compot creams
Serves six to eight

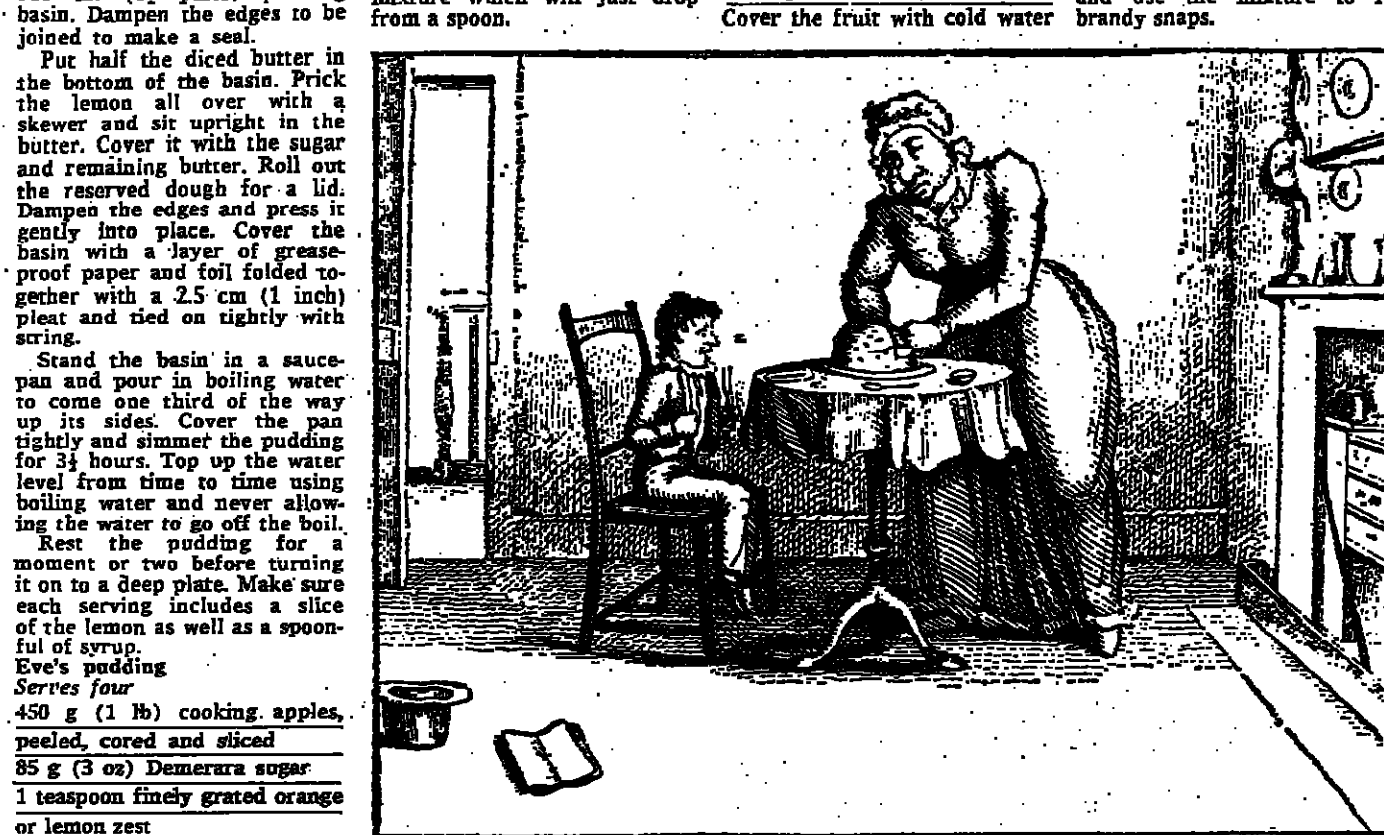
225 g (8 oz) dried fruit, apricots, peaches, pears and apples
85 g (3 oz) Demerara sugar
150 ml (¼ pint) double cream
150 ml (¼ pint) soured cream
1 teaspoon dried cinnamon

Cover the fruit with cold water and leave it to soak for several hours or overnight.

Put the fruit and its soaking water in a pan with the sugar and bring to the boil. Cover and simmer the fruit until it is tender. Drain the cooked fruit and return the liquid to the pan. Reduce the syrup by fast boiling to about two tablespoons. Cut the fruit into 1 cm (½ inch) cubes and pour the reduced syrup over it. Chill well.

Whip the double cream until it holds soft peaks. Fold in the soured cream, fruit, syrup and cinnamon. Mix well and chill thoroughly before serving with unfilled brandy snaps.

Alternatively, purée the fruit before adding it to the cream and use the mixture to fill brandy snaps.



Prudence Glynn

Panting for the written word and not a Bible in sight

As pants the hart for cooling streams when heated in the chase, so pant I for the written word, literally and metaphorically. Since it may well be the second aspect of my malaise which will strike readers as the more bizarre, I suppose that I had best begin my confession at the end.

There is really very little need to explain the literal panting, since it refers to a condition I find to be rampant among bibliophiles. They can never find the book that they are looking for, and the more urgently they need to check that it really was Xenophon who said "get out of my sun", or what custume Gladys Cooper wore in *No, No, Nanette,* before the deadlines are baying at their heels the faster the in-and-exhalations.

There is a quite simple explanation why serious dedicated readers can never find the right book at the right moment (though always when they least require it) but I shall come onto that later, including the popping-up when unwanted bit, a great pant producer as you will see.

For the meantime I appear to be going to have to bare a lonely vice, or one so terrible that nobody else will admit to it, or has not yet done so in my presence.

I am addicted to the written word. Deprived of it I fidget, I twitch, I feel that my world is intolerably incomplete, I exhibit withdrawal symptoms, in short I find myself in dire straits. Rather, I should say dire strait, since to be perfectly honest this fearful situation has only occurred once to my memory. That, however, was quite enough for me, oh yes indeed.

The strait of which I speak was situated, appropriately, for it is a watery country, in Finland. On a one night visit and after a congenial supper, it was not until I retired to bath and bed that I discovered that I had nothing, absolutely nothing, to read. Do not mistake me. I do not mean to imply that I had forgotten to roll my portable *The Decline and Fall* in my nightie, or that I was having to make do with a newspaper other than *The Times.* I am not a picky reader and, if any fellow sufferers from Metaphorical Prose Pant syndrome are emboldened by my revelations to come out of the closet, it will be found that so great is our compulsion that we will read anything.

Our voracity knows no bounds, although in my case it does not extend to actually eating literature, a practice which proved fatal to Emperor Menelik II of Ethiopia who, accustomed to swallow a few pages of the Bible when not feeling too rubust, expired in 1913 after consuming the entire *Book of Kings.*. Serves him right for being such a snob. He should have dieted on some gloomy old bore like Jeremiah.

Come to think of it, why was there *not* a Bible in my hotel room, indeed why are they now so rare to find? This is a work which has always seemed to me the ideal general reading matter, offering as it does uplifting fact or sensational fiction, according to your view; blood, guts, incest, philosophy, poetry and all sorts of snippets which would be banned in any other context. Many of these are particularly apt for hotel room life since they cover almost any eventuality from destruction by fire to warning about painting your face and "'tiring your hair and putting your head out of the window", a most unwise practice, if you are lodged near any of the main rail termini.

But in my Finnish room there was nothing save the fire regulations, and they were nailed to the back of the door, and when at six o'clock next morning I tottered to the window, I had to resign myself to an hour of trying to read the name of the shop opposite which was very long, very Finnish and parts of which were obscured erratically by storm-lashed trees. It was then that I knew I was hooked.

The literal panting is a habit shared by many, so now I can swim among friends again. Also it is far easier to describe. It follows that if you are a keen reader you are likely to have a lot of books around, and books are great believers in Parkinson's law; no matter how many bookcases you have, they are never enough. This problem, however, is as nothing to the complexities of arrangement of volumes upon those shelves. I am not of course talking about books for show purposes only (spiteful guests who suspect their hosts to be illiterate and to buy their books by the yard from their interior decorator, delight in lifting down an impressive volume of, say, Pliny, and ostentatiously blowing the dust off the top; even more fun is when the whole shelf comes away in your hand and reveals a cocktail cabinet.)

Nor am I talking about coffee table books, whose very name dooms them to a life in a philistine lounge.

I am talking about books which belong to people who have bought them, or (well, scholars can be vague) borrowed them, quarried from them, and generally love them and use them, and care quite frantically about their exact location. You see it is virtually impossible to put together a library of a catholic and liberal nature which can be used by more than one person, because truly avid readers have individual reading patterns which defy neat labels comprehensible to others.

One of the symptoms of bibliomania is that one is always going to rearrange the books once and for all, so that everybody knows just where everything is. Another symptom is that this never ever gets done, despite moves of house ("all the paperbacks on the landing, darling") the arrival of the chimney sweep ("all the books in the drawing room will have to be put away, Madam") and redecoration of bits of wall which are actually supporting the books ("Just pile them on the floor, Stan, would you, then I can sort them out when I put them back.")

I will lay any odds that they all go back just as they came out, a source of neat, well ordered joy to the neat and well ordered, and a source of hysterical searching to those whose logic is of a different metal.

I, for example, read on the cross-reference method, which means that I frequently have six books on the go at the same time because a phrase or a thought in one has touched off an idea supported by another. I also read in the bath, turn down page corners, and stick bits of paper with cryptic notes ("rubbish") scribbled on the top. These protrude, and eventually yellow and crumple and cause a lot of sighing and reproachful glances around the house.

Also, having a vivid visual memory, I can recall not only just where every book should be, but what colour it is and whereabouts on the page the bit I want comes. Once my non-system is upset I am lost, and what is much morse a prey to that most self-indulgent vice, literary side-tracking. In search of *The Golden Bough* I once spent an entire day with *The Golden Notebook* my sole experience of the works of Miss Doris Lessing, I am glad to say.

In principle it all looks so simple. Paperbacks on the landing, hardback in size, colour, content or author. But it is not simple at all. What if you have half of a continuing saga, say, the Palliser novels, in hardback and half in paper? Are you to spend your life on the stairs? Then all those traditional headings are so limiting. Poetry sounds all right, but what does one do about the appalling Burns who turns up everywhere without even the excuse of Queen Victoria and John Brown's tartan frolics which which were yet to popularize Scotland. Then we run into history, biography, autobiography, gardening, self-improvement, dress, art, politics, best sellers and blockbusters. You have not forgotten about the categories of author and humour, have you?

May I suggest a totally new system of arrangement which will enable true readers to seize upon the very volume they need. My categories (I do not insist on gold leaf lettering on the mahogany) would start with masochism. Under this would be filed all books related to self-sufficiency, eating poisonous things out of the hedge, plays designed to be performed outdoors, outdoor cooking, gardening in any form. Then we have Lies, into which slip neatly a fair chunk of History, Biography, Autobiography with biography getting a cross reference under Toadies—you know, those ghastly snivelling books in which you can feel the widow hovering over the writer's shoulder and suppressing all the naughty, ie interesting bits.

If you do not agree you could subsection it thus: Best Sellers and quasi-social blockbusters are invaluable, and should be filed under Formula or Pot-Boilers. All that is then necessary is to throw two or three up into the air, see where they fall open, and cobble them swiftly into your own quick money spinner.

I hate books about self-improvement, which I file under Inferiority Complex Inducing. Why should some women be able to sail through the menopause and hang up the pictures straight? These books also tend to have terribly silly titles, such as Success without Tears. What we want to know is how to be a dead failure without smudging the mascara.

The snag with Authors is that you can end up under Powell with Anthony next to Enoch, and when you are a reader who is captivated by useless information (always the best sort to have) you frequently cannot remember just who wrote it, his name being subservient to the thought.

As for Humour, we all know that there is only one shelf for that. It is marked Unintentional. Nor can Diaries pose a problem. You *merely* file them under Wishful Thinking, or Sneaks.

Successful orders

Seven years after the Community Service Scheme was introduced experimentally in six areas of Britain, most of those closest to it remain as enthusiastic about its effectiveness and possibilities as they were at the beginning. It is now available as a sentence for imprisonable offences to every court in the country; 78 per cent of orders are successfully completed; 75 per cent of them are carried out by individuals without the necessity of direct supervision, thousands of people who are not in a position to pay for help have benefited from community service and it is far from unknown for a sentenced man to stay on in his community work on a voluntary basis after the completion of his order. But still only three per cent of eligible defendants are sentenced to community service. Why?

The second interesting question only exacerbates the first. Why has community service always enjoyed such a favourable press and public reaction? If people like the idea of offenders against society being compelled to repay their debts in a practical way and if the positive characteristics of this kind of sentence appear so obvious why is it not more frequently recommended by probation officers in their social inquiry reports and why do magistrates not use it more readily?

Part of the answer lies in the confusion which persists as to when it *should* be used. Section 14 of the Powers of Criminal Courts Act, 1973 (which introduced the Community Service Order for imprisonable offences committed by persons over 17, of 40-240 hours of unpaid work to be performed in the community within 12 months) is ambiguous about whether it is to be regarded as only appropriate where a defendant would go into custody if community service were not available or as a separate sentence in its own right.

Different commentators have taken opposing views but the facts are that magistrates generally seem to regard it as a sentence to be used even where a defendant would not be going immediately to prison while probation officers wish they would confine it to custody cases. In support of their view, the magistrates, who, at their annual meeting last October passed, with a substantial majority, a resolution calling for community service to be used as a sentence in its own right, can quote the provisions in the Act for a breach of a CSO which do not say that persistent or serious breach results in immediate imprisonment (as with a suspended sentence) but allows the offender to be treated in any way open to the court at the time he received his CSO.

Probation officers, on the other hand, are inclined to say this reflects neither the intention nor the spirit of the legislation and the debate which surrounded it. On the whole they dislike ambiguity.

Though nobody would claim that community service is the perfect sentence, there is now sufficient evidence that it generally works well and can occasionally be a huge success to have given both magistrates and probation officers the confidence to put their faith in it more often.

In fact, community service has all kinds of advantages over prison. To put the most measurable and, perhaps, politically persuasive first, it costs a mere £420 per person per annum against prison's £7,800. And it is not altogether a "soft option". Defendants may see it as this when they first give their consent to being sentenced to it. But after sacrificing every Saturday for a year they may begin to wish they could have done two or three months "time" and got it over with.

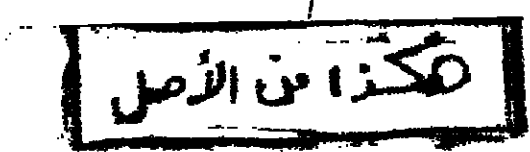
It may not be "soft", but it is certainly a more positive disposal than custody. For a start, it avoids all the problems which an "ex-con" has to face when he leaves prison and which can result in his offending again within a short period of time. Community service allows him to pursue his normal life with his family and with his job if he has one. It allows him an area of self-determination and requires of him a degree of commitment and responsibility from which if he is so motivated he can get some useful experience.

The average community service order is for 150 hours' unpaid work either alongside people being paid or as part of a group of volunteers in, for instance, old people's homes or day centres, playgroups or adventure playgrounds.

Over 50 per cent of CSOs are made for dishonesty; only just over 10 per cent for crimes of violence. The balance is almost entirely accounted for by motoring offences, mainly taking and driving away and drunk driving. Over a third of people on community service have five or more previous convictions and 75 per cent are in the age range 17-24, though Moira Scott, who for two years was deputy community service organizer for North-west inner London, tells of one man of 71 with a long list of previous convictions who was very successfully placed to work in a pre-school nursery where he became "Grandad" to the kids and where he stayed on as a volunteer when his order had been completed.

Naturally, community service does not always work out. But only 22 per cent of orders are not completed (re-offending, failure to work, running away) and this is a record which compares very well with probation. Community service *is* a punishment, it *is* retribution and it *can* rehabilitate and, as Moira Scott says, "Prison can be permanently damaging and disturbing experience and this does no good to society as a whole. As far as I know, nobody was ever damaged by community service."

Jane Moonman





COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 11: His Excellency the Hon Kingman Brewster and Mrs Brewster were received in farewell audience by The Queen this morning and took leave upon His Excellency relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Republic of the United States of America to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency Dr Firmin Jean-Marie Frisat was received in audience by Her Majesty and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Central African Republic to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following Member of the Embassy who had the honour of being presented to The Queen: Monsieur Emile M'Eari (First Counsellor).

Madame Frisat had the honour of being received by Her Majesty.

Mr Derek Day (Deputy Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs) who had the honour of being received by The Queen was present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Mr Victor Pasmore had the honour of being received by Her Majesty when The Queen invested him with the Insignia of a Member of the Order of the Companions of Honour.

Lieutenant-Colonel Sir Martin Gilliat had the honour of being received by Her Majesty when The Queen invested him with the Insignia of a Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order.

Rear-Admiral Hugh Janion had the honour of being received by Her Majesty and took leave upon his retirement as Flag Officer, Royal Yachts when The Queen conferred upon him the honour of Knighthood and invested him with the Insignia of a Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order.

Rear-Admiral Paul Greening had the honour of being received by Her Majesty upon his appointment as Flag Officer, Royal Yachts.

The Prime Minister of Mauritius and Lady Ramgoolam had the honour of being invited to luncheon with The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh.

Princess Alexandra, the Hon Mrs Angus Ogilvy and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were present.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness this evening attended a Dinner at the Mansion House given by the Right Hon the Lord Major (Colonel Sir Ronald Gardner-Thorpe) to mark the twenty-fifth Anniversary of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme.

The Duchess of Grafton, the Right Hon Sir Philip Moore and Squadron Leader Adam Wise were in attendance.

The Duke of Edinburgh, as a Trustee of the Royal Academy Trust, this morning attended a meeting of the Trustees at Buckingham Palace.

His Royal Highness, as Patron of the National Federation of Housing Associations, this afternoon chaired the Working Party on Rural Housing at The Travellers' Club, Pall Mall, SW1.

Lord Rupert Nevill was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The Gordon Highlanders, today at Buckingham Palace received Lieutenant-Colonel C. H. Van der Noot upon his relinquishing command of the 1st Battalion and Lieutenant-Colonel G. H. Peebles upon assuming command.

His Royal Highness, Duke of Cornwall, this afternoon received the Marquess of Lothian (Lord Warden of the Stannaries).

This evening The Prince of Wales, Commodore, the Royal Thames Yacht Club, received Mr Robin Aisher and Mr John Foot.

The Queen was represented by General Sir Patrick Howard-Dobson (Aide-de-Camp General to The Queen) at the funeral of General Sir William Scotter (Aide-de-Camp General to the Queen) which was held in the Royal Garrison Church of All Saints, Aldershot this morning.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE, February 11: Princess Alexandra, Colonel-in-Chief, The King's Own Royal Border Regiment, was represented by the Lady Mary Fitzalan-Howard at the funeral of General Sir William Scotter which was held in the Royal Garrison Church of All Saints, Aldershot this morning.

The Marquess of Bristol, Chancellor of the Monarchist League, very much regrets that he was unable to be in the chair at the private dinner held by Lord Sudeley at the House of Lords on February 3. He sends good wishes to all those who were present.

Birthdays today

General Sir John Archer, 57; the Hon Anthony Berry, MP, 56; Lord Boothby, 81; Mr John Burke, 57; Sir James Dunnett, 67; Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, 53; Lord Granville of Eye, 82; Lord Greene of Harrow Weald, 71; Mr Anthony Howard, 47; Lord Moyola, 58; Signor Franco Zeffirelli, 58.

Knighthood for judge

A knighthood is to be conferred on Mr Justice Falconer on his appointment as a judge of the High Court.

Memorial service

Lord St Helens

The Prime Minister was represented by Mr Ian Gow, MP, and the Speaker by Mr B. Godman Irvine, MP, at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Lord St Helens held yesterday at St James's, Piccadilly. The Rev Donald Reeves officiated. Lord St Helens (son), read the lesson and the Earl of Selkirk, QC, gave an address. Mr Edward Heath, MP, attended. Among others present were:

Mr and the Hon Mrs Brian Stevens and Mr and the Hon Mrs Jonathan Peto (sons-in-law and daughters), Lt-Col Mrs James Arbuthnott (daughter), Amyas Peto (grandson).

The Countess of Selkirk, Earl and Countess St Aldwyn, Earl and Countess Clanwilliam, the Earl of Listowel, Lady Michael Fitzalan Howard, Viscount Daventry, Viscount Long, Lady Rupert Nevill, Lord and Lady Macleod, Lord Banbury of Southam, Lord Glenkinglas, Lord Holderness, Lord Inglewood, Lord Denham, Lady Sempill, Lord Fraser of Kilmorack, Lord Redmayne, Baroness Vickers, Lord Drumalbyn, Lord Chelwood, Lord Sandys, Lord Wakefield of Kendal, Lord Margadale, Lord Boyd-Carpenter (also representing Association of Independent Unionist Peers and the Carlton Club), Lady Elizabeth Scott, Lady Mary Meade, the Hon Elizabeth Manningham Buller, Lady (Peter) Roberts, Sir Richard Thompson, Sir Frederick Hoare (representing Grimersta Syndicate and staff), Sir Rolf and Lady Dudley-Williams, Sir John Rodgers, Lady Bowes-Lyon, Sir Charles and Lady Molt-Radclyffe, Sir Douglas and Lady Dodds-Parker, Sir Nigel Fisher, MP, and Lady Fisher, Sir John and Lady Peel, Sir Brian Batsford, Dame Ann Springman (chairman, National Union of Conservative and Unionist Associations), Sir Paul Bryan, MP (representing the Government Chief Whip) and Lady Bryan.

Sir Harry Boyne (Conservative Central Office), Sir William Elliott, MP, Sir Graham Rowlandson and Mrs Peter Hawley (Primrose League), Lady Legge-Bourke, Lady Stirling, Sir John Tilney, Sir Robin Chichester-Clark, MP, Mr W. R. van Straubenzee, MP, Mr T. J. R. Wood (chairman, Wokingham Conservative Association) with Mr B. Butler and Mr M. Bull, Mrs E. de Knoop, Mr Philip Johnson (land agent, Sherdley Estate), Colonel Neville Blair and Colonel Chris Melville (The Black Watch), Major J. L. R. Samson (London branch The Black Watch), Councillor John Trimming, Mr Alan Babington-Smith, Mr Alastair Dudley-Williams, Mrs R. Bonsor, Mr J. Powell-Jones, Brigadier Ralph Sassoon, Mrs N. Baring, Mr David Ker, Brigadier M. Gordon-Watson, Mr Simon Wingfield Digby, Mrs C. M. Veitch, Major-General and Mrs Roger St John, Mrs M. Villiers-Stuart, Mr R. Gethin-Jones, Mr and the Hon Mrs R. H. Senior, Mrs P. de Laszlo.

Mr Denril Freeth, Major A. D. Murray, Mrs Hugh Ryder, Mr John Stokes, MP, Mr John Biggs-Davison, MP, Major J. O. K. Purdey, Mr Esmond Warner (Pitt Club), Miss Vanda Salmon, Captain and Mrs M. Harker, Mr and Mrs L. Wolstenholme, Councillor S. L. Bowyer, Mr H. M. S. Bowyer, Rear-Admiral and Mrs D. J. Halifax, Mr David Hoare, Mr D. Dayton, Alexa and Didi Dayton, Mme Aniela Mieczyslawska, Count Edward Raczynski, Mr Robert Linsley (secretary, Carlton Club) and Mr J. Timmings (Conservative and Unionist Association, Balham and Tooting).

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J. N. M. MacManus and the Hon Emma Soames
The engagement is announced between James, the eldest son of Dr and Mrs Niall MacManus, of 8 Warwick Square, London, and Emma, elder daughter of Lord and Lady Soames, of Castle Mill House, Odiham, Hampshire.

Mr J. H. Cartwright and Miss J. A. Russell
The engagement is announced between Jonathan Harry, younger son of Mr and Mrs Harry Cartwright, of Tabbit's Hill House, Corfe Castle, Dorset, and Julia Anne, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Mark Russell, of Welders Wood, Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire.

Mr J. R. Nash and Miss J. Sturrock
The engagement is announced between Jeremy Robert, youngest son of Mr and Mrs John E. Nash, of Gsteig-bei-Gstaad, Switzerland and Mount Christopherson, The Dorrigo, New South Wales, to Jane, only daughter of Dr and Mrs D. Sturrock, of Sydney, Australia.

Mr R. Pasley-Tyler and Miss S. Muûls
The engagement is announced between Robert, second son of Commander and Mrs Henry Pasley-Tyler, of Coton Manor, Northamptonshire, and Sabine, second daughter of M and Mme Edmund Muûls, of 5 Avenue Moscicki, Brussels.

Mr S. A. Warne and Miss A. S. Rymer
The engagement is announced between Steven, second son of Mr and Mrs E. J. D. Warne, of Ealing, London, and Anne, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs D. J. Rymer, of Motherwell, Lanarkshire.

Mr S. Anholt and Miss N. Owen
The engagement is announced between Simon, youngest son of Mr and Mrs S. G. Anholt, of Hampstead, London, and Natasha, daughter of Professor and Mrs P. R. Owen, of Notting Hill, London. The marriage will take place in Venice in 1985.

M. M. A. Couvreur and Miss J. M. Shock
The engagement is announced between André, youngest son of M and Mme Georges Couvreur, of Brussels, Belgium, and Julia, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Maurice Shock, of Knighton Hall, Leicester.

Mr W. A. E. Farndon and Miss J. D. Weller
The engagement is announced between Alan, only son of Mr and Mrs E. Farndon, of Aldwick Bay, Sussex, and Dawn, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs P. A. Weller, of Arundel, Sussex.

Mr C. E. G. Riach and Miss J. E. Hartwell
The engagement is announced between Colin, son of the late Mr F. E. Riach and Mrs E. M. Riach, of Aberdeen, Scotland, and Janine, daughter of Mr and Mrs E. Hartwell, of Totteridge, London, N20.

Rajkumar J. Singh and Miss M. L. Windeler
The engagement is announced between Jai, eldest son of Raja Ranbir Singh, of Kapurthala, and of Mrs K. Cheryan, of Washington, DC, and Marie Louise, daughter of Mrs Penelope Windeler and the late Major A. H. T. Windeler, of St Petersburgh Place, London, W2.

Mr F. B. Searls and Mrs M. A. Batts
The engagement is announced between Frank Searls and Margaret Batts, both of south Ascot, Berkshire.

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:
Lord Moran to be United Kingdom High Commissioner to Canada.
Sir Robert Ford, Adjutant-General, to be governor of the Royal Hospital, in London.

Legal

Mr G. A. B. Norman, to be a metropolitan stipendiary magistrate.

RAC art exhibition

An art exhibition, On The Open Road, was opened at the RAC Clubhouse in Pall Mall last night by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Transport. The exhibition, staged by the RAC in conjunction with the Contemporary Art Society, will run until March 11. It will later be staged at the RAC country club near Epsom. Four prizes of £500 each have been awarded by a judging panel comprising Miss Nancy Balfour, chairman of the Contemporary Art Society; Mr Ronald Gordon, RAC Clubhouse director and CAS member; Mr Edward Lucie-Smith, art critic and author; Mr Godfrey Pilkington, director, Piccadilly Gallery; Professor Carel Weight, RA, artist and former professor of painting, Royal College of Art.

Luncheons

HM Government
Sir Ian Gilmour, Lord Privy Seal, was host at a luncheon held at 1 Carlton Gardens yesterday in honour of the Spanish Ambassador. Among those present were:
The Marquesa de Perinat, Senor Don Pedro and Senora Ortiz-Armengol; Lady Caroline Gilmour, Lord and Lady Nicholas Gordon-Lennox, Lord and Lady St Oswald, Lord Shackleton, Lord Goronwy-Roberts, Mr Denis Healey, MP, and Mrs Healey, Mr R. W. H. de Bonlay and Professor and Mrs Hugh Thomas.

HM Government
Lord Carrington, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon held at Admiralty House yesterday in honour of the American Ambassador. Among those present were:
Mrs Brewster, Mr and Mrs Edward Streator, Lady Carrington, Lord and Lady Harlech, Lord and Lady Gibson, Lord and Lady Lever of Manchester, Mr and Mrs Gordon Richardson, Mr David Owen, MP, and Mrs Owen, Sir Hugh and Lady Casson, Mr and Mrs T. Montague Meyer and Mr and Mrs G. Walden.

Lord Rhodes
Lord Rhodes was host at a luncheon held by the Inter-Parliamentary Union at the House of Lords yesterday in honour of a delegation from China led by Mr Hao Deqing, President of the People's Institute for Foreign Affairs.

Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies
Major-General Viscount Monckton of Brenchley, President of the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies, presented the Julian Bickersteth Memorial Medal to Sir Iain Moncreiffe of that Ilk at a luncheon given by the trustees of the institute at the Charing Cross Hotel yesterday.

Lloyd's Register of Shipping
Mr R. A. Huskisson, Chairman of Lloyd's Register of Shipping, and members of the general committee entertained at luncheon at the society's headquarters in Fenchurch Street yesterday:
The Lord Mayor, Alderman and Sheriff Anthony Jolliffe, Mr O. R. Donaldson, Mr P. J. F. Green, Lord Matthews, Lieutenant-Colonel P. M. Vilo, Mr J. A. S. Neave, Mr M. Noakes, Sir Douglas Wass and Captain M. B. Wingate.

Dinners

Lady Mayoress
The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were present at a dinner given by the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress at the Mansion House, yesterday to celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. The Lord Mayor is president of an appeal which has been launched in support of the scheme and guests at dinner included the vice-presidents, the chairman and members of the appeal council and others who are giving their support to the scheme.

Institute of Petroleum
The Earl of Gowrie, Minister of State for Employment, was the principal guest and speaker at the annual dinner of the Institute of Petroleum at Grosvenor House last night. Sir Nevil Macready, president of the institute, presided and Mr Maitland Mackie, Lord Lieutenant of Aberdeenshire, also spoke. Other guests were:
Lord Clydesmuir, Sir David Barran, Sir John Hill, Sir John Hedley Greenborough, Sir Donald Maitland, Sir Denis Rooke, Sir David Steel, Mr P. B. Baxendell, Mr G. Chandler, Mr G. J. G. Docters and Mr R. G. Reid.

Royal College of Surgeons of England
Sir Alan Parks, President of the Royal College of Surgeons of England, and Lady Parks entertained at dinner at the college yesterday Lord and Lady McAlpine of Moffat, Professor and Mrs G. Slaney and Mr R. T. Turner-Warwick.

Crabtree Foundation
The annual dinner of the Crabtree Foundation was held at University College London last night. Professor A. P. Mathias, president, was in the chair and the oration was delivered by Mr W. H. A. Larrett. Among those present were:
Professor R. Bakker-Nielsen, Professor D. Bishop, Mr M. A. Bromage, Professor F. J. J. Cadwallader, Dr E. M. Chance, Dr J. Enticknap, Professor R. V. Jones, Dr J. H. Jorgensen, Lord Kennet, Professor J. W. Mullin, Mr B. dos Santos and Mr A. Tattersall.

Today's engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh give reception for winners of the Queen's Awards for export and technology, the Duke of Gloucester attends as president of British Consultants Bureau, Buckingham Palace, 6.

Princess Anne attends world premiere of *Little Lord Fauntleroy* in aid of the British Red Cross Society and Princess Anne's Charities, Classic Cinema, Haymarket, 7.50.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother attends Reception given by Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, St James's Palace, 6.30.

Princess Margaret, as president of the Girl Guides Association, attends dedication of memorial stone to founder and Chief Guide, Westminster Abbey, 2.55.

The Duchess of Gloucester attends royal charity performance of *Holiday on Ice 1981*, Wembley Arena, 7.25.

Exhibitions: A new portrait of Prince of Wales by Bryan Organ, National Portrait Gallery, 10-5; Works 1929-1981 by Gerald Wilde, October Gallery, 24 Old Gloucester Street, Queen Square, 12.30-4.30; Drawings and paintings and prints of Greece and Italy by Alistair Crawford, Curwen Gallery, 1 Colville Place, Charlotte Street, 10-5.30. Paintings and drawings by Pamina Mahrenholz, Ben Uri, 21 Dean Street, 10-5.

Talks, lectures: Is Cultural Imperialism in Africa dead? Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, 8; St Paul's Epistle to the Galatians, Michael Tapp, Christian Community, 34 Glenilla Road, 8; Annual discourse by Professor Aldo Van Eyck, Royal Institute of British Architects, 66 Portland Place, 6.15; Sukhara and Samarkand, Professor Edward J. Shellard, Casual Club, Society of Friends, 52 Martin's Lane, 7; Literary figures of London, Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, 10; Soap opera on television, the endless street, Richard Paterson, New Gallery, Regent Street, 12.30.

Lunchtime music: Vickie Jaffee, soprano/lute, St John's, Smith Square, 1.15; Stella Dickinson, oboe, Irita Kutchmy, piano, St George's, Hanover Square, 1.10.

Royal Caledonian Ball

The Royal Caledonian Ball will be held at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London, W1, on Monday, May 18. Tickets, priced £17 each (including light refreshments served at midnight), will be on sale from early March. Enquiries can be made to the secretary to the ball, 16 St Michaels Close, North Waltham, Basingstoke, Hampshire. Tel. Dummer (025 675) 543.



Lord Benson, who was introduced in the Lords yesterday.

Latest wills

Beatrice Maud Hulme, of Washington DC, United States of America, left estate in the United Kingdom valued at £78,920 net. She left all her property to Dr Barnardo's, for the provision of scholarships or awards to students (aged more than 10) of speech, drama or music, to be known as the Beatrice M. Hulme Foundation.

Other estates include (net, before tax paid):
Ainscough, Mr Cyril Joseph, of Parbold, Greater Manchester .. £1,120,626
Barry, Mr Walter Ernest, of Welshpool, Powys .. £214,880
Barstow, Mrs Gladys Louisa, of Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire .. £142,974
Batchelor, Mr Richard Ernest Osmond, of Churchstanton, Somerset .. £154,915
Eaton, Mr Frank William, of Woking, Surrey .. £160,065
Green, Mr Alfred Thomas, of Romsey, Hampshire .. £366,432
Richards, Mr Charles Albert, of Bromley, Kent, estate agents manager .. £127,931

25 years ago

From The Times of Saturday, February 11, 1956

Trenchard of the RAF

Lord Trenchard, first Marshal of the Royal Air Force and the prime architect of British air power, died yesterday at his home in London. He had celebrated his eighty-third birthday a week ago. He was one of the earliest, and by any measure the greatest, Air Force officers of any nationality. Seldom can a man have made a more lasting mark in so short a time. In 1914 he was an unknown major of The Royal Scots Fusiliers seconded to the Royal Flying Corps; yet little over three years later when he was only 45 the news of his resignation from the newly created post of Chief of the Air Staff, after a difference of opinion on a matter which he regarded as one of vital principle with the Secretary of State, Lord Rothermere, caused a wave of dismay to pass over the country. The stature he had acquired in so short a time may be judged too by the intensity of feeling which manifested itself in a debate in the House of Commons in 1918 arising out of his resignation. Yet his work in the war of 1914-18 was destined to be only a beginning, the earliest foundations of a reputation which was not to reach its pinnacle even in his massive services to British air power during his 11 years' tenure of the office of Chief of Air Staff when he preserved the integrity and built the basic structure of the great service which was to save the free world in the Battle of Britain and have so predominant a share in the second victory over Germany.

Ban dampens Art Nouveau bids

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The entire suite of bedroom furniture created by Majorelle for his bedroom around the year 1900 was offered for sale by Sotheby's in Monaco on Tuesday night. Comprising 11 pieces in all, and a most personal creation of France's greatest Art Nouveau cabinet-maker, the price should have gone through the roof.

However, the French Government stepped in to prevent that by announcing before the sale that export of the furniture from France would be banned. In the event, the furniture was bought in partnership by two French art dealers, André Vyncke and Claude Mazet, for 360,000 francs (estimate 500,000 francs) or £31,250.

The furniture, including bed, chairs, chests of drawers and mirrors, is made largely from ash wood, carved in the sinuous lines beloved of the Art Nouveau period.

The sale, devoted to "Arts Decoratifs Styles 1900 et 1925", included some very fine examples of the craftsmanship of that currently fashionable period, totalling £516,096 with 8 per cent unsold.

The Gallé glass proved particularly popular with a top price of 190,000 francs (estimate 150,000 to 200,000 francs) or £16,493 for a blue and white cameo vase of simple ovoid form decorated with seagulls hovering over a tossing sea.

At Christie's yesterday a sale of clocks, watches, horological books and barometers met less than enthusiastic bidding with 28 per cent out of the £133,930 total left unsold.

Edwardian novel wins award

By Philip Howard
Literary Editor

The W. H. Smith Literary Award this year has been made to Isabel Colegate for her novel *The Shooting Party* (Hamish Hamilton). The award is worth £2,500.

The Shooting Party, Mrs Colegate's ninth published novel, is set in an Edwardian country house party just before the First World War. With style and subtlety it summons up the ghosts of a society on the brink of destruction, and is a microcosm and metaphor of that vanished age.

Reviewing the book in *The Times* last September, Elaine Feinstein wrote: "The book is densely, even beautifully, written to create a world of elegant adulterous women, and acid voices. And the irony of the great European slaughter of a whole generation that lies ahead does not need to be pressed."

Isabel Colegate: a metaphor

Isabel Colegate started work in London as a literary agent. She is married, with three children, and lives near Bath.

Foreign arts companies 'scared off'

By Our Music Reporter

Many foreign arts companies, which have taken substantial financial risks to perform in London, do not dare to do so because their survival could be in question, Mr Stephen Remington, director of the Sadler's Wells Theatre, said yesterday.

He said the companies, particularly American ones, could no longer take such risks on visits to London, where theatres like Sadler's Wells could not afford to pay proper fees, unlike most of the main European theatres.

"Britain is losing out because funds simply are not available", he said. The strong pound, especially against the United States dollar, has also made visits much more expensive.

The regular summer season of American contemporary dance companies has been curtailed this year. The Twyla Tharp company will come to London for the first time in several years, but the theatre is still negotiating with the Merce Cunningham company for a visit in June, and its plan to bring the Dance Theatre of Harlem has had to be dropped because the company could no longer manage the financial arrangements.

Sadler's Wells is also still in financial negotiations over the planned first visit to London by the Sydney Dance Company in September.

While the theatre may be having difficulties over foreign visitors, it announced details of more home-grown events. It will be mounting its own opera productions for the first time since the Sadler's Wells Opera Company moved to the Coliseum and became the English National Opera.

In May it will present Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel*, and in August there will be further performances of Hansel and a new production of Kalman's operetta *The Gypsy Princess*.

Sadler's Wells said it was also going ahead with plans for another season by the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company in August, despite the announcement that the company will have to close before then unless it receives extra funds. Mr Remington appealed for support for D'Oyly Carte, which he said had been an important factor in the survival of the Wells in the early 1970s.

Architecture

Arts centre in 'Wrenaissance' building



The former municipal complex at Windsor that is now offices and an arts centre.

By Charles McKean
Architecture Correspondent

Lawyers and actors have a great deal in common, as all those who have sat in courts will confirm. The range of mannerisms, of vocal effects and of hand signals may differ but histrionics are often what brings courts to life. It is therefore excellent that the new Windsor Arts Centre, which Lord Montagu of Beaulieu opens today, is in part of a former municipal complex, with its theatre in the old magistrates' court.

The building once housed the police station, cells, magistrates' court, fire station and ambulance station, built in that heavy, florid diapered brick and stone style christened "Wrenaissance". In point of fact it is rather neo-Baroque than neo-Wren, and sits heavily in St Leonard's Road, Windsor. The local council, Windsor and Maidenhead district, has newer premises for its municipal duties, making the old pile redundant.

An agreement with a property company finally resulted in what is known as "planning gain". About two thirds of the building has been converted into offices, known as Constable House, and the remainder into the Windsor Arts Centre. Part of the building was demolished to provide car parking at the rear.

It was not a convenient building for such a conversion, and the architects, Thomas Saunders Partnership, have made an efficient job of it. In the former fire engine garage there is a new community-uses and exhibition room, with a committee room above. The main space, however, is the auditorium for the theatre (where once the lawyers acted), complete with balcony and stage. The usual ancillary accommodation is provided. Minimum change to the existing building meant fitting in with its old inconvenient planning. The entrance to the arts centre is therefore through a narrow passage into the theatre foyer. If the centre is to be the success the local people clearly desire, this entrance will prove a constraint.

The adjoining office development is relatively substantial, on two floors, and has been in use for some time. The bulk of it is open plan, with self-contained offices in the St Mary's Place frontage.

The scheme is interesting for a number of reasons. Local authorities throughout Britain are finding themselves landed with outmoded buildings of some architectural value, which become redundant as better facilities are provided elsewhere. The difficulty of empty police and ambulance stations is a growing one, and one that is leading to waste, vandalism and dereliction.

Windsor is lucky in that the original complex was a large one which lent itself to the dual conversion. In many other towns, the various police, ambulance and fire stations were located in smaller, independent buildings for which a similar re-use becomes more difficult. It is good that Windsor, given the opportunity, managed to grasp it with both hands.

Science report

Molecular biology: Foot and mouth

By the Staff of *Nature*

A report published in this week's *Nature* marks an important milestone in the application of genetic engineering techniques to the development of improved vaccines against foot and mouth disease, still one of the most serious animal diseases throughout the world.

A team in West Germany, one of several in Europe and the United States applying such methods to foot and mouth disease, has developed bacteria that can produce a vital component of the virus responsible for the disease. If the work continues as hoped, some existing difficulties in combating the disease should be eased considerably.

Throughout the world vaccines are essential in the control of foot and mouth disease. In Western Europe, vaccination has been compulsory for 25 years and outbreaks of the disease are now rare. But in other countries, such as those of South America, the disease, with its remarkable tendency to spread, still lowers milk production and interferes with trade in animals and meat, despite vaccines.

At present vaccines are produced from foot and mouth virus, which must first be cultivated on a large scale in living cells taken from cattle. One particular component of the outer coat of the virus, known as VP1—virus protein 1—is responsible for the immune reaction of vaccination. Thus it provides the antigen for the vaccine.

Difficulties arise in the production of sufficient quantities of that antigen, largely because it takes slightly different forms in different strains of virus. To afford adequate protection, it is necessary either to make vaccines containing a variety of different antigens, or to make them specially for particular regions of the world. Even then, it may be difficult for production to keep up with the disease.

Genetic engineering offers hope of a more efficient way of producing the antigen in its different forms, both in larger quantities and in a purer state, for direct use in the making of vaccines. The work reported this week comes jointly from the University of Heidelberg, the Federal Research Institute for Animal Diseases in Tübingen and the Max Planck Institute for Biochemistry at Martinsried. Dr H. Küpper and his colleagues have inserted into bacteria of the species *Escherichia coli* the genetic information required to make VP1. They have used a sensitive immunological test to show that the bacteria are indeed making the antigen in an immunologically active form.

Because the genetic material of the virus consists of the single stranded nucleic acid RNA, that had to be first converted to the double stranded form DNA; which constitutes the genetic material of the bacteria. Using special enzymes to cut and join the DNA at particular sites, the team inserted the genetic information needed for the production of VP1 into a plasmid, an independent piece of DNA that naturally inserts itself into the genetic machinery of a bacterium. The plasmid thereby multiplies as fast as the bacterium and large quantities of VP1 can be produced.

Now that bacteria are available that will produce plentiful supplies of VP1, there is a long way to go before the antigen passes all the tests on the way to routine use on a large scale for foot and mouth disease vaccine. But the prospects are looking bright.

Source: *Nature* (February 12, vol 289, pages 535, 555, 1981).

OBITUARY

SIR HUBERT SHIRLEY-SMITH

Distinguished bridge builder

Sir Hubert Shirley-Smith, CBE, the engineer, died on February 10 after a distinguished career as a designer and builder of steel bridges in many parts of the world. He was 79.

Born in Hendon, north London, on October 13, 1901, the son of E. Shirley-Smith, Hubert Shirley-Smith was educated at Haberdashers' Aske's School, Hampstead, before obtaining, in 1922, his BSc (Eng) from London University after study at the City & Guilds Institute. He also gained the Diploma of Imperial College. Joining, in 1923, the staff of Sir Douglas Fox & Partners (now Freeman, Fox & Partners), his ability was quickly recognized and for some years he assisted on the calculations and designs for Sydney Harbour bridge.

There followed a spell in the North-East where he worked on the Tees vertical lift bridge at Middlesbrough, afterwards returning to London to assist Sir Ralph Freeman on designs and estimates for the Birchenough and Otto Beit bridges in Rhodesia in with which the firm of Sir John Burnet, Tait & Lorne were associated as architects.

The outbreak of war found Shirley-Smith busy on the foundation work and superstructure of the Howrah bridge, Calcutta, but he returned home in 1942 to establish for Arrols a new shipyard on the Forth for the building, launching and fitting out of all-welded tank launching craft for the Normandy invasion. Following 1945, he managed the London office of the Cleveland Bridge Company, joining the board in 1951; during the 15 years spent with them, Shirley-Smith reckoned he had flown half a million miles on site visits to bridges in Nyasaland, Siam, Australasia and Finland, in which last country his firm built the celebrated double-deck Rovaniemi bridge; Shirley-Smith also designed the steelwork for the tower of the Shell Centre on the South Bank.

He was a member of the board of Cleveland Bridge, Dorman Long (Auckland) and also of the A.C.D. Bridge consortium for which he acted as site agent in charge of construction of the Forth Road bridge. This was in 1960-65, when he was rising 64. The bridge designers were the late Sir Gilbert Roberts, of Freeman, Fox, in association with Mott, Hay and Anderson. On retirement in 1967, Shirley-Smith set up in private practice in 1969, becoming consultant to W. V. Zinn & Associates.

Like many men of his generation, Shirley-Smith worked hard in committee for the civil engineering profession. He had been a member of council of the Institution of Civil Engineers from 1952 until 1957, when he became President; from 1958-65 he was on the council of the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors, and in the international field was vice-president of the International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering, of whose UK group he was chairman in 1963. He assisted in the revision of British Standards governing the quality and design of steelwork in structures, and in the drafting of the 1962 Regulations applying to works of engineering construction. In 1964 he was appointed Director and Chief Engineer of the North Sea Marine Engineering Construction Company, of which he became managing director in 1966. He was a member of the Smeatonian Society of Civil Engineers.

Shirley-Smith wrote a good deal as a relaxation; his *The World's Great Bridges* (1953, revised 1964) is a classic of its kind, and he contributed many papers to his Institution which awarded him the Telford Gold Medal, and to the technical Press. He wrote the article on Bridges for the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. Made CBE in 1965, he was knighted in 1969 following his presidency of the ICE in its 150th anniversary year.

Shirley-Smith was twice married, first in 1927 to Joan Elizabeth Powell, by whom he had three daughters; she died in 1963 and in 1973 he married Marie Lynden-Lemon.

MRS MARGARET 'ESPINASSE

Professor J. Norton-Smith and Mr Edward Wilson write:

The pupils and former colleagues of Margaret 'Espinasse, sometime Reader in English Language at the University of Hull, will have been saddened by the brief notice in *The Times* announcing her death on December 21, 1980, at the age of 77.

Some testimony should be offered to her devotion to teaching generations of undergraduates (her unbroken service at Hull began in 1930) Old and Middle English literature and the historical development of the English language, and to her unswerving commitment to accuracy, logic and the importance of historical context in the study of literature and language.

She published three books, the first two under her maiden name, of Wattie: *The Middle English Lai le Freine* (1929), *The Scottish Works of Alexander Ross, M.A.* (1938), and an absorbing account of the life and work of Robert Hooke (1956).

Her interest in the historical study of the English language no doubt derived in part from her father, Dr J. M. Wattie, to whom she paid tribute in her edition of Ross, and himself the author of an English Association pamphlet, *The Grammarian and His Material* (1930), and a study of Tense in Old English (*Essays and Studies*, 1930). Her critical acuity and dry, probing method of inquiry she acquired from her Oxford days spent in small Text Classes with C. T. Onions.

She was not always an easy colleague to work with, yet her intelligence and devotion to "finding out" always inspired admiration and sympathy. She was severe in her marking but kind to undergraduates. She was scrupulous in reading and re-reading examination scripts in order to do the very best for the candidate. Syllabuses were organized with great care and exactitude: in these negotiations she was a great objector. In Pound's coinage, she effectively "de-svetized" any proposal to be offered for academic consideration. Although she and her husband, Paul 'Espinasse, Professor of Zoology at Hull, lived a quiet and plain life, her cooking was exotic, and the range of drinking materials astonishingly wide, not to say very strong. A lecturer once remarked that he abstained from the wines and spirits only to be made drunk with the sauces.

Spiritually, she seemed to belong to Hull and its university. She imagined that Hull embodied the essence of a civic proletarian institution, and she proudly defended what others found unattractive or unimaginative, just as she championed the prose styles of the early scientific writers of the Royal Society. Colleagues and pupils owed much to her insistence upon hard work, plain facts, and sound judgement. Above all, her own work gave one no excuse to compartmentalize or specialize too narrowly. Of Margaret 'Espinasse it could be said, as her beloved Robert Hooke wrote in his diary for June 28 1680: "Spent most of my time in considering all matters".

She is survived by two daughters.

MRS LILLIAN ROSEWARNE

A correspondent writes:

The quiet, obscure and virtually unnoticed death on February 8 in indigent circumstances of Mrs Lillian Rosewarne, has severed a link with *The Times* of the world of Mrs Miniver, and young men dying with echoes of the patriotic spirit which animated Rupert Brooke, Julian Grenfell and others of similar sentiment.

Vivian Alan William Noall Rosewarne was killed with his bomber crew of 36 (B) Squadron during the deliverance of Dunkirk. Among his effects was found a letter to be sent to his mother if he were killed.

Published anonymously in *The Times* of June 18, 1940, the simple beauty of the words and serene acceptance of his fate, had a tremendous effect on the thinking and feeling Anglo-Saxon world. Reprinted in various formats, the letter, *An Airman to His Mother*, sold almost 500,000 copies in 1940 alone, the greater part of the proceeds going to the bereaved mother.

To further serve the national interest, extracts were broadcast by the BBC, it was translated into Arabic, illustrated and framed to be hung in schools and chapels, and with Michael Powell as producer and John Gielgud as narrator, turned by MGM into an unusually touching, yet not mawkish, short film.

The artist Frank Salisbury, transformed a photograph into an oil portrait to be hung in the RAF Memorial Chapel. For the pilot's mother it was a rather different post-war world.

PHILIP DUDLEY

Mr Philip Dudley, the television and stage director, has died in Norfolk where he had been working on a new play for Anglia Television. He was 45.

Most of his distinguished career was spent with the BBC where he had been a director on many of their major series including *Softly Softly*; *Task Force*; *Colditz*; *The Brothers*; *Warship*; *Poldark*; *A Horseman Riding By*; *Family Affair*; and *Bull Week*.

At the end of the 1960s he had a big West End success with the play *The Secretary Bird* starring Kenneth More.

He had directed two of Anglia's *Tales of the Unexpected* and was under contract to the company to direct several more. He was working on the latest title in this series when he was taken ill.

ALLYN JOSLYN

Allyn Joslyn, the American character comedian whose career embraced stage, screen, radio and television appearances, died on January 21. Born in 1905 in Milford, Pennsylvania, he made his film debut in 1937 as a cold-blooded newspaperman in *They Won't Forget*—the picture that introduced Lana Turner—and went on to appear in over 30 films including *Bedtime Story* (1941); *A Yank in Dutch* (1942); *Heaven Can Wait* (1943); *Bride by Mistake* (1944); *Junior Miss* (1945); *It Shouldn't Happen to a Dog* (1947); and *If You Knew Susie* (1948). In American television, he was seen in *Don't Call Me Charlie* and *The Addams Family*.

Lady Duff, widow of Admiral Sir Alexander Duff, GCB, GBE, KCVO, died on January 21. She was Marjorie, daughter of Charles Hutchinson, and she married as his second wife Sir Alexander Duff in 1924. He died in 1933.

Major Fernando da Silva Pais, last chief of the Portuguese secret political police (Pide), died on January 27 at the age of 75. He had been moved to a military hospital after spending a year in prison while under investigation in connexion with the murder of opposition leader General Humberto Delgado in Spain in 1965.

New Books

The man who ruled the world

The Search for Alexander
By Robin Lane Fox
(Allen Lane, £12.95)

The Romance of Alexander the Great is the most cosmopolitan story without a religious message to have spread around the world from Iceland to China. Alexander pops up in the first Muslim commentaries as the two-horned prophet, forerunner of Mahomet. Marco Polo met him *passim* in native dress in Malaya, Thailand, and points east. Old Ox-head Bucephalus was the first unicorn in the West.

Robin Lane Fox's sequel to his fine biography of Alexander in 1973 has the same hyped title as the exhibition of the mortuary treasures from Vergina that is at present touring the United States. Both book and exhibition were commissioned by Time-Life. The book is more aptly named. The spectacular gold and jewelled burial at Vergina was certainly royal (those royal Macedonian stars), not earlier than 340, and not later than 300. If Time-Life really were searching for Alexander, what they have found is his father, Philip II, instead and even that is not certain. Manolis Andronikos has always shown exemplary caution in claiming that he has found Philip.

Professor Phyllis Lehmann has argued from Oriental influences in the tomb that the King buried there was Philip's half-witted son, Philip Arrhidaeus. Robin Lane Fox comes down strongly for Philip II. And the evidence for the great Philip, those oddly shaped graves for the limping King, and the rest, are more persuasive than many views that ancient historians have swallowed without a cough.

Lane Fox has changed his mind about some of the roads that lead to Alexander in the seven years since his biography, for example, about the value and source of the alternative historical tradition to the accounts based on the books of Alexander's officers. His views of the Pages' plot, the Makran march, and the bearing of the remarkable parchments from Avroman in West Iran on the hellenization of the East have altered. And archaeology has added to the evidence: notably at Vergina; and at the modern Ai Khanum on the banks of the Oxus in Afghanistan, where French archaeologists have recently excavated the huge ground plan of the most easterly Alexandria founded on Alexander's march.

Robin Lane Fox has himself marched in Alexander's footprints over the ground for this book. His knowledge of the terrain is helpful at such cruces as the dusty confusion of the Battle of Issus, and vivid among the wild roses and last snows of the Hindu Kush. Themes recur: Alexander's vision of himself as the Homeric hero striving ever to be best and stand far above the others; his last world plan for a united empire of concord and kinship between east and west.

Supporting the great political and strategic themes there is a wealth of delightful detail. When the army struck camp in the spring of 328 a spring welled up near Alexander's tent, "gushing forth no different in smell or taste or brightness from olive oil, though the earth was unsuited to olive trees." Mistaking petroleum for olive oil, the prophets used the first oil strike by westerners in Iran as an omen to justify a patient hope for the best. In India, according to Theophrastus, the Macedonians "ate a type of wheat which was so powerful that many actually burst apart." Alexander forbade his men to eat bananas, because they upset so many stomachs. Artistobulus noted: "You were unlikely to survive if you ate one." It is encouraging for all of us to be reminded that the veteran Silver-Shields who conquered the world behind Alexander were aging men, many of them over 60 by the end. It is less sensible of the publisher to assert in a press release puff: "Robin Lane Fox's career is little less glittering than his subject."

The book has the virtues and vices of *Time-Life* publications It is spectacularly illustrated in colour, with many pictures from the homonymous exhibition. But not all the illustrations are directly relevant to the argument. When Alexander makes his significant pilgrimage to the oracle of Ammon, we are treated to a double-page spread of the pyramids captioned, "The ancient mystery of Egypt".

Robin Lane Fox writes well in patches, with a gift for the striking phrase: Issus had scattered trouble round it, like sparks from a stamped-out fire. But sporadic clumsiness suggests that the book was produced in a hurry for the exhibition, without careful editing. The fine phrases are repeated. The first time that the Macedonian army is described as the new model army, we prick up our interest at the analogy. When it is repeated for the fourth time, we are vexed. We are told several times too often that horses are scared stiff of elephants, that the Macedonians had neither stirrups nor wheelbarrows, and that their catapults were now powered by torsion.

These are minor flaws in a handsome book that manages to be both scholarly and attractive to the general reader. Alexander was the most romantic and mysterious of heroes. He showed a personal courage that no general before or since has surpassed. He was an inspired cavalry commander, a monster of celerity in decision and action. When he died at the age of 32 (not of drink) he ruled 2.5 million square miles of the world, and may have had his eye on a universal, ecumenical, interracial monarchy.

The search for the man behind the romance will continue for as long as men are interested in their past and in romance. Robin Lane Fox has brought the story up to date, and made a second notable contribution to the quest and to the pleasures of the past.

Philip Howard



The Natural History Museum that never was: the winning, but unexecuted design for South Kensington by Capt Fowke RE. Reproduced in Mark Girouard's deliciously illustrated monograph "Alfred Waterhouse and the Natural History Museum" (Yale £4.95): Waterhouse first adapted then transformed the Captain's Renaissance assembly into the gigantic terracotta façade restored to full dazzlement by cleaning in 1975 and celebrating the centenary of its opening this year. Waterhouse, whose building was never completed, was a marvellous watercolourist as well as a spectacular architect and designer of decorative beasts—living species to the West, extinct to the East—and this little book gives a handsome account of how he brought his romantic talents together, if not always practically, in the Cromwell Road.

Danger: men at work

The Greatest Power on Earth
The Story of Nuclear Fission
By Ronald W. Clark
(Sidgwick & Jackson, £8.95)

"It was golden, purple, violet, grey and blue. It lighted every peak, crevasse and ridge of the nearby mountain range with a clarity and beauty that cannot be described but must be seen to be imagined. It was that beauty the great poets dreamed about but describe most poorly and inadequately."

It was nuclear beauty. Beauty? Poetry? Where, we may now ask in 1981, is that beauty? Where is the poetry of the nuclear age, ushered in at dawn on July 16, 1945? Or was that first aesthetic response from a romantic scientist (Farell) more appropriately capped at the time by his colleague Griesen, who exclaimed with surprise after years of research, "My God, it worked".

The climax of Ronald Clark's book—that first nuclear explosion at Alamorgordo, New Mexico—comes on page 199 out of 298. The rest, one might say, is history. We have the strains of the Anglo-American nuclear alliance, Hiroshima, Nagasaki, the British independent programme, Atoms for Peace, the Macmahon Act, and thermonuclear power all jumbled into the last 100 pages. This represents some sort of tidying up by the author after the personalized dramas of the first 200 pages. Of course Mr Clark with *The Birth of the Bomb*, *The Rise of the Boffins*, and *Tizard* is among old friends when he describes the world of nuclear physics between the wars. It was then that Rutherford, Bohr, Einstein, Szilard, Joliot-Curie, and many others were engaged in what Clark describes as a relay race "catching the discovery as it was thrown from one laboratory and using it until weeks, months or years later an improved version was passed on to someone else". The author is definitely at his best among those old friends. There are moments of hilarity, of tension and of luck—always of luck. But above it all tower those men whose humanity, either in speech or behaviour, sometimes illuminates the arcane world of physics their brains seem to inhabit most of the time.

It always seemed to be Rutherford, for instance, who could encapsulate the mystery of physics in a commonplace. He used to maintain that a good scientific theory should be explicable to a barmaid. "I was brought up to look at the atom as a nice hard fellow, red or grey in colour, according to taste", he used to say, or joked that scientists "might make this old world vanish in smoke."

Describing a neutron he said it was "like an invisible man passing through Piccadilly Circus; his path can be traced only by the people he has pushed aside". It is not only Mr Clark who would find that hard to beat.

The world of physics was an international community which knew no frontiers. It must have been rather like Europe before the Great War. But whereas it was 1914 which destroyed forever the sense of a larger international family—certainly among the middle and upper classes of Europe—it was 1934 and the rise of Hitler which dealt the same blow to the fraternity of physics. Nazism introduced national frontiers into the world of nuclear physics whereas previously the only frontier had been the state of the art. With those new frontiers came secrecy and competition though, remarkably, the tradition of professional disclosure of research in learned journals lasted longer in the dictatorships of Germany and Russia than it did in Britain and the United States.

There is an underlying irony in this sudden dispersion of central European physicists—many of them Jewish—to Britain and North America, ultimately to concentrate their energies on the development of a weapon which they would rather the world did without, but which they feared that Hitler might get first. And, then, as it turned out, Hitler had already died, Germany had surrendered, and it was to culminate another war that few of those European exiles had either expected or bothered about that the monstrous weapon they had invented was ultimately used.

Mr Clark takes us through this tortuous narrative with dispatch once the climax of research is concluded at Alamorgordo. The trouble with the nuclear question, however, and writing nuclear history, is twofold. As long as the history of nuclear physics can be presented through the lives of individuals with the play of different personalities, their vicissitudes, idiosyncrasies and triumphs—all of which we have in abundance with a sample of genius or near geniuses in the cast—the attempt to engage the lay reader's attention will prosper. It is the technicalities on their own which become heavy, as illustrated by the following paragraph:

There appeared to be one way of discovering what had happened. If the mysterious substance was an isotope of radium with its eighty-eight protons then the addition of a single proton would turn it into actinium; if it were barium, beta-particle decay which would convert a neutron into a proton would turn it into the 57-proton element lanthanum. As actinum and lanthanum are chemically different a positive identification could then be made.

After sentences like this the reader might thirst for one of those nice graphic displays that can be found in newspapers. Indeed this book would have profited from one or two schematic drawings to which one could refer when the technicalities of nuclear physics became too much.

The other drawback to the writing of nuclear history is a moral one. The question still so afflicts us with the neutron bomb, CND and all the rest, that it must be as difficult for historians to write about it without moralizing as it was for Macaulay to look dispassionately at the 1680s, or for Shakespeare to portray the Tudors.

Mr Clark almost steers us clear of those difficulties. We are left to observe the scientists at their work and to conclude that the moral dimension of the nuclear question is something with which they cannot really be saddled. What mankind as a whole, or certain societies in particular, do with their inventions is a matter for mankind and those societies rather than for the inventors. The immorality of nuclear attack seems to spring entirely from a quantative approach to explosive power rather than through any qualitative change in the nature of warfare. This pass was sold when civilian women and children became legitimate targets of war. That development may have been thrown into sharp and hideous relief by the glow of firestorms in Dresden or Hiroshima, but it is none the less a consequence of war and a tactic of war which is as old as war itself. We are right to be alarmed by the arrival of a weapon system which can, as Rutherford said, almost blow this old world of ours up in smoke. But other people's worlds in other places at other times have been blown up just as effectively in history by gunpowder, rape, pillage. Is the morality of savagery to be graded only according to the complexity of the equipment used?

Charles Douglas Home

Poetry

Robert Frost once actually defined poetry as "what gets lost in translation." There is some truth in that, for a good poem invariably happens somewhere close to the roots of any given language. The better the poem, the harder to translate or transplant it? Hearts are easier.

To say that a thing is impossible, though, is not to say that it should not be tried. The poems of Paul Celan present very great problems for the translator, especially his highly idiosyncratic final poems before his suicide in 1970. Michael Hamburger rises brilliantly to the occasion in his selection *Paul Celan: Poems* (Carcanet, £7.95), a bilingual edition spanning the poet's whole career. Hamburger admits at the outset that Celan's work "confronts us with difficulty and paradox" from whichever direction we approach it. Hermetic, desperate, precise, characterized by what Hamburger well-defines as "their peculiar leaps and bounds, their haltingness and their silences", Celan's poems at their best transcend personal anguish and communicate a truth common to us all:

Black milk of daybreak we drink you at night
we drink you at noon death is a master for Germany
we drink you at sundown and in the morning we drink and we drink you
death is a master from Germany his eyes are blue
he strikes you with leaden bullets his aim is true
a man lives in the house your golden hair Margarete
he sets his pack on to us he grants us a grave in the air
he plays with the serpents and daydreams death is a master from Germany
your golden hair Margarete
your ashen hair Shulamith

Celan was Jewish and both his parents were murdered in a concentration camp. He came to refuse permission for anthologists to use the poem whose final stanza I have quoted above, "Todesfuge" ("Death Fugue"), because he felt its imagery was too direct, too explicit, and because he was cut to the quick by the critical accusation that he had made something "beautiful" out of events too terrible for words—the poem is of course about Auschwitz. Celan aspired to a pure poetry, an absolute poetry, yet at the same time his work is rich and dark with religious and political self-questioning. Speaking about poetry, he once quoted this definition by Malebranche: "Attention is the natural prayer of the soul." Hamburger refers to this and quite properly adds that he neither knows nor considers it his business to know what Celan believed. "It is this quality of attention in his poems that points to a religious sensibility.

I might add that this marvellous volume is a real eye-opener to those who previously knew Celan only by repute, or through one or two pieces in anthologies. Here is a major poet—and since Hamburger has been prudent and selective especially in the area of those poems which cannot be reproduced in English because they attack the German language itself by punning having to do with Celan's "anomalous position as a poet born in a German-speaking enclave that had been destroyed by the Germans", because of this, I suggest, not all the poetry has been lost in the translation.

I suspect that Seamus Heaney would translate smoothly into any foreign language. Not because his verse is thin and obvious but because it has a surface richness which could be made to work in (say) French or German by any skilled rhetorician. His *Selected Poems 1965-1975* (Faber £3.95, paperback £1.95) is a most enjoyable book, full of immediately likeable things, but for me it confirms the suspicion I have felt with each of his individual collections—that here is a poet of indubitable talent who has settled for writing what Gerard Manley Hopkins called "Parnassian" verse, as opposed to poetry proper, the language of inspiration. Parnassian, says Hopkins, can be written only by real poets, but it is not in the highest sense poetry, being "spoken on and from the level of a poet's mind, not, as in the other case, when the inspiration, which is the gift of genius, raises him above himself." Parnassian, in other words, is what a poet writes when he *tries* to write a poem. Well, Heaney only rarely seems to be doing anything else, to my mind, and the occasions when he lets the poem speak for itself are too infrequent to justify the high praise which some critics have heaped upon him.

All I know is a door into the dark.
Outside, old axles and iron hoops rusting:
Inside, the hammered anvil's short-pitched ring,
The unpredictable fantail of sparks
Or hiss when a new shoe toughens in water . . .

That is Heaney at his best: a good describer. It is because he can describe so well that I want more of him. More truth, more meaning, more altogether of "the roll, the rise, the carol, the creation". He has a great grip of his craft. He has only to learn that most difficult thing: how to express what his craft is at present concealing.

Bread for the Winter Birds (Hutchinson, £6.95) collects the last poems written by Thomas Blackburn, who died in 1977. If none of them has the power or the memorability of earlier poems such as "A Small Keen Wind"—the best thing he ever wrote, in my opinion—the verses presented here are still remarkable for their honesty and their plainness.

It is only now in my sixth decade that, instead of
Trying to live life, I let life live me;
Why it should do so and so be lately?
I'm not sure though it has something to do with love. . . .

The lines stagger on the edge of the banal, but when one considers Blackburn's career as a whole they become impressive for their modest simplicity.

Anthony Thwaite's *Victorian Voices* (Oxford, £3.95 paperback) is an interesting and inventive attempt to do something new with the form of monologue developed by Browning in "Men and Women". Thwaite's 14 voices are all those of not particularly eminent Victorians. I found the poem supposed to be spoken by Hardy's friend Thomas Moule (who killed himself) especially moving:

Dear brother in the outer room you hear
A kind of trickling, a sound you cannot place:
That cold commemorator encouraged
Will place it, use it, all grist to his mill.
I took the open razor to my throat.
Old pupil, you have new material now.

Robert Ny[e]

Contradictory Ole Ez

Ezra Pound and his World
By Peter Ackroyd
(Thames & Hudson, £.25)

Peter Ackroyd has a tough assignment. How to sum up in a few thousand words the controversial, contradictory life and work of "Ole Ez"? The life is hard enough, stretching as it does from hick-town America to metropolitan Europe, from aesthetic plotting in Kensington to a reinforced steel cage at Pisa. And the work would appear to complicate things even more: literary and social polemic, translations that are both more and less than translations, and the evolution of the poetry, from the ninetyish *A Lume Spento* of 1908 ("Bearers of beauty flame and wane,/The sunset shadow and the rose's bloom") to the unending *Cantos*—fragments not so much shored against his ruins as piled over them in a great barrow. A gift to the academic archaeologists.

There is, however, an overruling consistency. Pound was passionate for ideas and the ideas penetrate the work. Whether he is acting as literary ringmaster for the New, or engaged with the venial crankiness of Social Credit or the mortal offences of Anti-Semitism and High Treason. So Peter Ackroyd is able to blend his brief biography with a commentary that at least acknowledges the moving forces behind Pound's development, and leaves him room for his condensed but always balanced critical assessments. As an introduction to Pound's work for beginners the book is only muddy sites of the busy Pound industry.

The chief reason why Mr Ackroyd's monograph has to be so cramped is of course that it is part of a series where illustration occupies as much space as text. Here the book measures up well to its many distinguished companions, following Pound's journeyings with a sequence of well-chosen but unevenly captioned pictures. Dorothy Shakespear's graphic accompaniments to her husband's books nudge the reader towards seeking a fuller understanding of that brave, sad woman. The mere look of the camp at Pisa goes far towards explaining the disintegration of Pound's final years. And alongside the expansive portraits of his august contemporaries: H. D. and Gaudier, Hemingway and Joyce (but only a little drawing of Possum), there is the run of photographs of Ez himself, a chubby lad turning into a raffish, leonine and ultimately romantic figure. Incidentally, I wonder if Mr Ackroyd, or anyone else, has any evidence—especially pictorial—for that most unlikely of occurrences: EP playing tennis with that other famous expatriate in Rapallo—the incompajable Max?

Brian Alderson

The importance of the apricot tree

Lectures on Literature
By Vladimir Nabokov
(Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £12.50)

Nabokov lectured at Wellesley and Cornell for over 20 years, both on Russian literature and on "great novelists from Jane Austen to James Joyce". He meant to make a book out of these lectures, and never did, and we must be grateful to Fredson Bowers who has edited this book using part typescript, part holograph, and Nobokov's marked teaching copies, of which several pages are photographed. The present volume, besides an introduction by Updike, contains discussions of *Mansfield Park*, *Bleak House*, *Madame Bovary*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Du Côté de Chez Swann*, Kafka's *Metamorphosis* and *Ulysses*.

It demonstrates that Nabokov must have been a brilliant teacher. In his discussion of *Bleak House* he states:

Literature consists, in fact, not of general ideas but of particular revelations, not of schools of thought but of individuals of genius. Literature is not about something: it is the thing itself, the quiddity.

This remark occurs in the middle of a discussion of the exactness and visual precision of Dickens's description of the harbour at Deal, and is a better place to start considering Nabokov's approach than his other statement, quoted by Updike. "Every great writer is a great deceiver but so is that arch-cheat, Nature." Updike comments "in his aesthetic, small heed is paid to the lowly delight of recognition and the blunt virtue of verity". But this is not so—Nabokov is a great quoter, juxtaposing the banalities of Madame Bovary's love-making with the banalities of M. Homard's social behaviour so that we see them placed and new, insisting that the good reader "must know when and where to curb his imagination . . . The colour of Fanny Price's eyes in *Mansfield Park* and the furnising of her cold little room are important". He made me see for the first time the importance of the apricot tree planted by Mrs Norris at the parsonage, and Dr Grant's claim that the fruit is "so little worth the trouble of gathering".

There are things that displease Nabokov. He dislikes the use of works of art to illustrate socio-economic theories, or, worse still if possible, the use of Freud to "explain" the structure of a work of literature. He dismisses Freudian interpretations of Kafka and quotes Kafka's view that psychoanalysis was "a helpless error": "Kafka regarded Freud's theories as very approximate, very rough pictures which did not do justice to details or, what is more, to the essence of the matter." What all his lectures do is to display, with precision and brilliant detail, both the general plan of his chosen novel and the relation of parts—language, characters, ideas—to the whole. He does this with a marvellous mixture of casual arrogance (as a man who knows what writing is) and proper humility (when he is talking about Dickens's style, or Proust's pace he is wholly attending to Dickens and Proust.)

We learn a great deal. About Dickens's Carlylean style, about a creature called the "perry"—Nabokov's word for the character who is there to hear and see for the author, the "sifting agent", about the man in the macintosh in *Ulysses* and the over-elaboration of Scott Moncrieff's translation of Proust's lucid figures of speech. We learn about casual deaths as narrative structure, about the cliché as "dead prose and rotting poetry" and Joyce's gift of making it reveal "its live source, its primary freshness". We have diagrams of doorways in *Mansfield Park*, the wanderings of Bloom.

But what finally impresses is the purpose.

I have tried to make of you good readers who read books not for the infantile purpose of identifying oneself with the characters, and not for th[e] adolescent purpose of learning [to] live, and not for the academ[ic] purpose of indulging in genera[li]sations. I have tried to make yo[u] read books for the sake of the[ir] form, their visions, their art . . . to share not the emotions of t[he] people in the books but t[he] emotions of its author . . .

Books, he says, give the "ki[nd] of comfort one feels when on[e] realizes that for all its blunde[rs] and boners the inner texture [of] life is also a matter of inspi[ra]tion and precision."

It is timely to read in ter[ms] of the author, now when cri[ti]cism is concerned with th[e] reader. Timely, too, to see th[at] major writers are major reade[rs] and the two activities in the e[nd] interdependent, each needi[ng] the other to survive. I look fo[r]ward to the promised secon[d] volume.

A. S. Bya[tt]

Ralegh's Lost Colony, by David N. Durant (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £10). The first English settlement in America landed on Roanoke Island in what has become North Carolina in 1585, with a patent to discover such remote, heathen, and barbarous lands not possessed of any Christian Prince. They brought with them skills unknown by the native Americans: writing, the wheel, iron, and gunpowder. They also brought disease and starvation. The Indians soon realized that if they were to survive, the visitors would have to go. A second colony landed in 1587, and vanished off the face of the New World. There were rumours that they were massacred. The Lumbee Indians claim descent from their survivors. England's first venture across the Atlantic was a failure, but it was an important step in the colonization of America. This book re-explores for the general reader the old dead-end from the original journals, and with too much imaginative reconstruction of what people were thinking and feeling introduced by such tendentious phrases as "no doubt".

Fiction

The Collected Short Stories of Elizabeth Bowen
Introduced by Angus Wilson
(Cape, £8.50)

It is our business to lose innocence, Elizabeth Bowen wrote in an autobiographical piece in her *Collected Impressions* (Longmans, 1950), and her zest in shaking readers, making us think and feel more, is as constant as her passion for shapeliness: the 79 stories in the new *Collected Stories of Elizabeth Bowen*, taking in over 30 years of publications, make her nimble, high voltage intelligence magnificently clear. She has stressed that great writers have no pre-assumptions and write from outside their own nationality, class and sex, and in most of these stories she fulfils her aim of universal truth; but she was a master of detail as well as of inference and images, and her writing always has a firm personal starting point—"A scene burned itself into me, history suddenly appeared to me in some tiny act", she wrote.

She was one of the first British writers to insist that nothing is commonplace and in her story *Sunday Afternoon*, she wrote that extraordinariness is the fate of each of us: she meant it. Her first book of tales, *Encounters*, was published before she read Katherine Mansfield and Chekhov and she has her own place as a technical innovator, a leader in making story-writing one of the major arts of this century.

Sir Angus Wilson's introduction is stirring; he specially admires her wartime stories (she worked in London for the Ministry of Information and as an air raid warden, and she wrote stories continuously as a form of diary). "When the history of English civilization is looked back upon as one of the strange and glorious manifestations of the human spirit", Angus Wilson writes, ". . . London in the blitz will have, I feel sure, its own very important place in the chronicle." There are 16 of her stories here on bomb-pitted London, of the times and talk between dire and flashing death; they have evocative descriptions of dangers seen and unforeseen that are unnervingly perfect and above all, people go on, worrying about broken eggs, moving about as if they "have no destination but each other . . ."

Yet I find more originality in her stories of the Twenties and Thirties, just as her prewar novel, *The Death of the Heart*, seems to me one of the most visionary books in English. She preferred stories and it's remarkable how much she condensed into every page. Her opening story in this new collection, *Breakfast*, is the first story she finished, written when she was 20, and has one of her liveliest sketches of an outsider at a ritual, Mr Rossiter, who feels his ears begin to protrude fanwise and his blushes to spread to the tip of his nose. Insecurity and comedy shiver through her stories and there's a recurrence of people who feel that if they stopped for a moment they would disappear, or if they opened a door unexpectedly "even the sky would not be there".

She said she had two main subjects—human unknowableness and searching for the perpetual. "Even stories which end in the air", she wrote of her work, "which are comments on or pointers to futility, imply that men and women are too big or good for the futility in which they are involved". Was she a romantic? I think she was anti-romantic; she exposed the brittleness of illusions; she was relentless about truth.

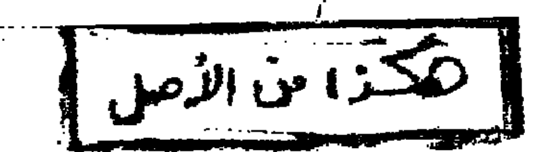
Yet she was sensitive to ghosts, calling them certainties, and this may be how her misleading reputation as a romantic started. However, her six ghost tales in this story collection are unextravagant, often extensions of loneliness. There are several stories where the wish to kill is the force behind exquisite exteriors, and four are precise anti-romances about murderers.

Born in Dublin in 1899, deeply part of the landowning Bowens who went to Ireland from Wales in Cromwell's army, in maturity she tra[v]elled and wrote in Euro[pe] retaining her love for home places, individual outlo[ok]. "Whatever you might de[ny] your body, there must [be] always something, a som[e]where, that the mind ca[n go] back to", she wrote in one [of] her finest sories, *Human H[ab]itation*.

The Cranbourne Chase, [by] David Burnett (Hamish Ham[il]ton, £7.50) tells a tale of br[aw]ling serfdom, outlaws and B[ri]tish reformers in the 134[0s]. David Burnett has drawn [on] contemporary accounts, incl[ud]ing that pioneer of war cor[re]spondence, *Froissart's Chro[ni]cles*, and this novel succee[ds] surprisingly in being more i[m]mediate, yet authentic.

Family Matters, by Kitty Bur[ns] Florey (Michael Joseph, £6.9[5]) is a first novel with a flair f[or] courage and untrendy humo[ur]. Betsy, a New York Engli[sh] teacher, is an unmarried mo[ther]-to-be and her mother, dy[ing], plots to meet death graceful[ly] laughing: the writing bear[s] off this humane challenge w[ith] distinction.

Myrna Blumbe[rg]



هكذا من الأصل

THE TIMES
BUSINESS NEWS



The road to
closure
at Linwood,
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Stock markets
FT Ind 486.1 up 0.6
FT Gilts 69.10 up 0.1

Sterling
$2.3375 up 5 points
Index 104.2 unchanged

Dollar
Index 99.4 unchanged
DM 2.1477 down 30 pts

Gold
$500.50 down $14

Money
3-mth sterling 13½-13¼
3-mth Euro $ 17½-17¼
6-mth Euro $ 17-17¾

IN BRIEF

Bank union opposes 'windfall' tax

The Banking Insurance and Finance Union (Bifu), yesterday added its weight to criticism of the proposed "windfall" tax on bank profits. A union executive meeting confirmed rejection of an 8.5 per cent pay offer from the banks and decided to consult members about possible industrial action in pursuit of a higher award.

The executive passed a resolution condemning proposals for a windfall tax. It was unfair to impose an additional tax burden on banks merely when they happened to be profitable. The tax issue is linked, in the minds of the union leaders, with their pay talks. They see the windfall tax as providing an additional incentive to the clearing banks to stand firm on their single-figure pay offer.



Mr Deryk Vander Weyer, president of the Institute of Bankers and vice chairman of Barclays Bank, who yesterday tackled proposals for a special tax on clearing banks profits. Speaking in Birmingham he said there was no logic in the idea. "Profits are now on a cyclically declining trend and are barely providing for our capital needs," he said.

Treasury stock

The Government's latest £1,000m offering of gilt edged stock received only a lukewarm response from investors yesterday. Applications for the Treasury 12 per cent 1986 stock were thought to have been relatively modest. All applications were allotted in full at the minimum tender price of 96 per cent.

Changes 'unnecessary'

Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, told the Society of Conservative Accountants last night there were a number of areas of company law where harmonization with the EEC was not necessary and certainly not urgent. "A very recent proposal to regulate prospectuses for unlisted securities must be an example of this", he said.

Woolworth pay deal

Woolworth has agreed pay rises of up to £6.80 a week for all grades of its retail staff, after negotiations with the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers.

Saudi devaluation

The Saudi Arabian riyal has been devalued to 3.34 to the dollar from 3.33.

Wall St lower

The Dow Jones industrial average closed at 942.49, down 3.14 on Wall Street yesterday. The $=SDR exchange rate was $1.23623 while the £=SDR rate was 0.529435.

PRICE CHANGES

Rises

Aeron't	10p to 363p	Killinghall	10p to 550p
Barclays	7p to 405p	Phillips Lamps	8p to 335p
Hambro Life	7p to 325p	Midland	7p to 333p
Hong Kong	25p to 765p	Nesco	5p to 140p
Ldn Sumatra	35p to 378p	Waddington J.	8p to 92p

Falls

Anglo Am Corp	15p to 584p	Kinross	36p to 541p
Arb-Latham	15p to 272p	Middle Wits	35p to 680p
Barlow Rand	15p to 378p	Massey Ferguson	15p to 200p
Cons Gold Fields	13p to 423p	Minorco	13p to 620p
Crouch Grp	13p to 140p	UC Investments	64p to 417p

THE POUND

	Bank buys	Bank sells
Australia $	2.06	1.98
Austria Sch	37.20	35.00
Belgium Fr	83.75	79.75
Canada $	2.87	2.78
Denmark Kr	16.00	15.20
Finland Mkk	9.88	9.38
France Fr	11.90	11.40
Germany DM	5.21	4.97
Greece Dr	119.00	113.00
Hongkong $	12.70	12.10
Ireland Pd	1.39	1.33
Italy Lir	2505.00	2395.00
Japan Yn	502	476.00
Netherlands Gld	5.63	5.37
Norway Kr	13.15	12.50
Portugal Esc	134.50	128.00
Sth Africa Rd	2.20	2.05
Spain Pta	203.00	194.00
Sweden Kr	11.19	10.64
Switzerland Fr	4.73	4.50
USA $	2.39	2.32
Yugoslavia Dnr	88.00	82.50

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

State loses £3,500 a year in tax and benefits for every worker without a job

By Frances Williams

Unemployment costs the Government nearly £3,500 a year in lost tax revenues and extra social security benefits for every worker put out of a job.

A rise of 100,000 in the number of people out of work adds £340m a year to government borrowing, official estimates show.

This suggests that the 900,000 rise in unemployment over the past 12 months could be costing the Exchequer nearly £3,100m—equivalent to more than half the £4,000m to £5,000m overshoot on the public sector borrowing requirement expected this year.

These costs, published yesterday in the Treasury's latest Economic Progress Report, take into account lost tax and national insurance contributions, additional social security benefits and the extra administration expenses of dealing with larger numbers of unemployed. But they do not include other costs such as the state Redundancy Fund payments (£242m in 1980), loss of indirect taxes because of reduced purchasing power, or the expansion of special employment schemes (costing £850m in 1980-81).

The total direct and indirect cost to the government of higher unemployment is likely to be substantially greater than the Treasury figure—perhaps as much as £500m for every 100,000 joining the unemployment register, equivalent to £5,000 for each worker.

The Treasury estimates that, of the £340m cost resulting from an extra 100,000 unemployed, lost tax revenues account for £205m (60 per cent) and additional social security benefits and administration for £135m (40 per cent).

Last November the Treasury put the cost to the Exchequer of an unemployed married man with two children on average earnings at £6,006 and the cost of an unemployed single man at £5,236 a year.

The lower figure of £3,500 suggested from yesterday's figures reflects the fact that the unemployment total includes unskilled and women workers who may earn less or be entitled to claim less in benefits, and who thus cost the Government less if they lose their jobs.

Another article in Economic Progress Report estimates that output in 1980-81 will turn out to be 4 per cent lower than in the previous year, twice the drop expected at the time of the last Budget.

This lost output will have added between £2,000m and £4,000m to public sector borrowing this year. The unexpected extra fall accounts for about half the total, in line with the Chancellor's £1,500m estimate in his mini-budget on November 24.

DIRECT COSTS TO EXCHEQUER OF AN INCREASE OF 100,000 REGISTERED UNEMPLOYMENT (EXCLUDING SCHOOL-LEAVERS) IN 1980-81

	£m
Current receipts	
Income tax	115
National insurance contributions	75
National insurance surcharge	15
Total current receipts	205
Current expenditure	
National insurance benefits (including earnings related supplement)	65
Other social security benefits	55
Rent and rate rebates	5
Administrative costs	10
Total current expenditure	135
Exchequer cost (at 1980-81 outturn prices)	340

Employment department £233m overspent

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

The Government has overspent this year by £233m on employment and related schemes, primarily because the Department of Employment underestimated the level of unemployment by 900,000.

This was revealed to a Commons Committee last night by department officials, who were answering MPs' question on requests for supplementary estimates. Some MPs doubted the department's ability to forecast accurately future levels of unemployment.

The main item of overspending was in the Temporary Short time Working Compensation Scheme, which encourages employers to adopt short time working rather than redundancies. The scheme's original budget of £39.9m was overspent by just over £200m.

The Commons Select Committee on Employment was also told by Mr Geoffrey Holland, director of special programmes at the Manpower Services Commission, that at least 290,000 new school leavers are expected to be jobless by this autumn.

The committee heard that the estimates for the short time scheme, which were drawn up in the autumn of 1979, were based on a projected average unemployment level for 1980-81 of 1.6 million compared with the present level of almost 2.5 million.

Mr John Gorst (Barnet, Hendon North, C), pointed out that the department still appeared to be working on the basis of the Government Actuary's projection for unemployment, in the next 12 months of 2.3 million, which had already been exceeded.

He wanted assurances that similar errors would not take place in the future.

A paper from the department said that the only previous experience of such a scheme was in the textile, clothing and footwear industries. Forecasting was "extremely difficult", and in the first year, 1979/80, the projected expenditure was £33.5m compared with the eventual outturn of £23.5m.

When this year's estimates were drawn up, the pattern of short time working in previous recessions was taken into account, but the forecast still had to be "somewhat rough and ready".

Overspending in other areas included £18.8m on the National Dock Labour Scheme, £9.4m for pneumoconiosis payments and £4m on the Small Firms Employment Subsidy.

Community service, page 20

Share deal rules tightened

By Michael Prest
Mining Correspondent

New regulations were introduced by the Stock Exchange yesterday in an attempt to control dealings in foreign minerals exploration companies. At the same time the Stock Exchange Council has simplified dealings in British companies exploring overseas.

The new regulations "invite foreign companies whose shares are dealt under Rule 163 (1) (e) to agree before dealings start on the release of price sensitive information simultaneously in Britain and in exchanges on which the share is quoted. If British investors are "disadvantaged" the council reserves the right to ban dealing.

The council says it has been concerned that some companies have issued shares in London without simultaneous issues in their country of incorporation.

Rule 163(1) (e) allows Stock Exchange members to deal in shares which are neither fully listed nor quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market.

But if this is seen as a tightening up, the council is liberalizing the regulation governing British companies exploring abroad, although unquoted in London.

These companies will be required to provide information to the Stock Exchange as though they were fully listed. But the council warns investors that the same degree of public disclosure is not demanded of unlisted companies.

Capel-Cure acquires specialist brokers

By Philip Robinson

Stockbroker Capel-Cure Myers—formed by the merger of four firms in 1974—announced yesterday it is to take on the small private client specialist brokers, Bendon Langner.

The two were introduced by a third party before Christmas after CCM was asked if it would be interested in a merger with Bendon. Once complete, before the financial year of both firms ends in April, the Bendon Langner name will disappear.

Bendon Langner was itself formed out of a stockbroking merger in 1971. At that time A. Bendon Co had been in existence 80 years and Levy Langner for 50.

There is still discussion on just how many staff CCM will incorporate. Capel's say that it is likely to employ about 20 "business getters" of a total staff of 30. Bendon's total staff, including partners is 40.

Mr Richard Nead, Bendon's senior dealing partner, said: "We don't know how many people will be joining Capel's at the moment. But the redundancy bill will be minimal as we expect the majority of the staff to go over with us."

Bendon employ a number of half-commission salesman — those who split commission on deals with their own firm. They will not join CCM in that capacity. Mr Andrew Hugh Smith, Capel's senior partner, said: "That's just not our style."

Mr Nead, Mr Kenneth Levy and Mr Geoffrey Metzger, from Bendon will join Capel's partnership. Mr Raymond Field, Mr Sidney Levy, Mr Anthony Klahr, Mr Richard King and Mr Martin Levy will become associate members of Capel.

Mr Ronald Cohen and Mr Harold Alvarez will be taken on in a consultative capacity which, by agreement, is unlikely to be for more than a year.

Mr Clément Piciotto, Bendon's former senior partner, will retire and Mr Peter Maxwell intends to emigrate to Australia.

Mr Nead said: "I don't think it matters who approached who. There have been a number of changes in stockbroking in the 1970s and we think there will be more in the 1980s. You either have to get larger or smaller. Its going to be difficult for the medium sized firm to offer the services that one is going to have to."

Financial Editor, page 21

Sugarbeet factories 'might have to close'

By Hugh Clayton
Agricultural Correspondent

A warning that some of the 17 British sugarbeet factories might have to close was given yesterday by Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

Mr Walker interrupted a meeting of EEC fisheries ministers in Brussels to return to London for a meeting with 12 Conservative and Labour MPs with constituencies in north-west England about the threatened closure of the Tate & Lyle cane refinery in Liverpool.

Mr Walker then had a brief meeting with Sir Gerald Thorley, chairman of the British Sugar Corporation, and Mr John Beckett, chief executive.

Mr Walker would not comment directly about the chances of keeping the Liverpool refinery open and of preserving more than 1,000 jobs there. "I have discussed with both companies if they will investigate what they can do as far as exports are concerned", he said. "It is not a question of the quotas for sugarbeet, but of the declining consumption of sugar in this country."

He wants Tate & Lyle, which refines all cane entering Britain, and the British Sugar Corporation, which processes all home-grown beet, to consider a joint venture to export refined cane and beet sugar for which there is no market in Britain.

Mr Walker said the programme of expanding domestic sugar production adopted by the Labour Government in the mid-1970s was no longer valid because of falling consumption. He had, therefore, offered to cut the EEC beet quota for Britain by 200,000 tonnes to 1.15 million tonnes if other countries accepted similar cuts.

Their forecast on what sugar consumption would be was different Mr Walker said. "This is not sour grapes. It is not a party point."



Sir Gerald Thorley: asked to investigate sugar export venture

British consumption of sugar has dropped from 2.7 million tonnes to 2.3 million tonnes in the past five years, while production of glucose and isoglucose has increased.

British supplies consist of about 1.16 million tonnes of cane, 180,000 tonnes of refined EEC beet, mostly from Denmark, and 1.1 million tonnes from beet grown in England and refined by the corporation.

Sir Gerald and Mr Beckett would not comment as they left the ministry yesterday. Mr Robert Parry, Labour MP for Liverpool, Scotland Exchange, said after leading the delegation of MPs: "He agreed with me that the British Sugar Corporation will not export. He said he cannot force them to export."

Mr Parry, whose constituency includes the Tate & Lyle refinery said it would be unfair to expect cane refinery workers to accept more job losses.

More than 1,000 jobs had been lost in the industry in the Tate & Lyle closure programme over the past four years and Merseyside had an exceptionally high unemployment rate.

If beet factories closed they would affect country towns with relatively low rates of unemployment. Mr James Dunn, Labour MP for Liverpool, Kirkdale, said he thought Mr Walker would not make concessions. "He probably cannot. What Tate & Lyle have done is to transfer capacity from Liverpool to London," he added.

Government offers British Steel £1,500m of emergency borrowing

By Peter Hill
Industrial Editor

New emergency borrowing facilities for the British Steel Corporation, increasing the present ceiling of £5,500m by £1,500m have been introduced by the Government.

The move reflects the continuing cash haemorrhage at BSC, which is losing close on £2m a day, and the need for it to secure further borrowing before the end of the present financial year in six weeks time.

Yesterday's announcement by Mr Norman Tebbit, Minister of State at the Department of Industry, provided a further dramatic illustration of the parlous state of the Corporation's finances. British Steel is already pressing close against the present ceiling and would have exceeded it within the next three weeks. The new borrowing powers Bill is seen as a prudent interim precautionary measure.

Initially the Bill will provide for the existing ceiling to be lifted by £500m to £6,000m and Sir Keith Joseph, the Industry Secretary will have power to lift it still further to £7,000m by order.

Originally the Government had hoped that it would be able to make its long-awaited statement this eek on the "survival plan" for BSC submitted by Mr Ian MacGregor, the corporation chairman. The plan will involve the provision of at least £750m from the taxpayer for the coming financial year, as well as writing off a large amount of the £3,500m of public dividend capital.

Although the Cabinet has approved the survival plan in principle, there are several major aspects which have still to be resolved.

Progress has been slow in negotiations between the BSC and a number of private sector steelmakers on rationalizing areas of overlap by forming joint venture companies.

The Government is also faced with growing pressure from the private steelmakers, from its own backbenchers and from other EEC states to control the level of funds committed to BSC. This year British Steel has received almost £1,000m of government funds—more than double the original external financing limit—and that will certainly be boosted further before the end of the financial year.

There has been growing criticism from private sector steelmakers of the aggressive marketing tactics being deployed by BSC in a desperate attempt to boost sales and plant loading levels through pricecutting and heavy discounting.

The frustration of the private sector was reflected in a petition by a delegation of workers from the Duport company's plant in Wales delivered to 10 Downing Street yesterday, calling for a halt to unfair competition from the corporation.

Among Tory backbenchers, similar fears are being expressed. Mr Michael Grylls, MP, chairman of the party's industry committee said last night: "There is a very strong feeling that firm and very watertight guarantees must be given by the Government that extra funds for the BSC must not be used as an operating subsidy. We will seek amendments if necessary, if assurances are not forthcoming."

Replying to questions after his statement on the new borrowing powers yesterday in the Commons, Mr Tebbit sought to allay those fears. "It is our intention that the BSC should not use funds to destroy the British independent sector of the industry", he said.

Ministers recognize that the provision of further substantial funds for British Steel is likely to provide a source of controversy within the EEC. The West German Government yesterday made it clear that, in forthcoming talks in Brussels, it would be seeking to persuade the EEC to invoke existing legal instruments to dismantle the panoply of state subsidies for steel throughout the Community.

Meanwhile, the Corporation continues to push ahead with its sales drive, claiming that export orders from its strip mill operations were running at their highest levels for nearly eight years. Over the next six weeks, more than 180,000 tonnes of strip steel is scheduled to be shipped to Germany and other EEC countries, with other shipments destined for the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia.

Harrisons poised for plantations takeover

Harrisons & Crosfield, the plantations and trading company, is considering buying the 54 per cent of London Sumatra Plantations it does not own. The move marks the end of a struggle for control of London Sumatra, whose shares jumped 35p to 378p.

It is understood that the minority holders in London Sumatra, who include RIT, McLeod Russell, another plantation company, and Sipef, a Belgian company with plantation interests, approached Harrisons with an offer of sale.

Three years ago these companies failed in a bid to control London Sumatra. Harrisons has since raised its stake, and yesterday said it would offer terms "closely related to the current price" of London Sumatra for the outstanding equity.

London Sumatra is a plantation company, with pretax profits in 1979 of £9.82m from assets of £17.5m. Its main interests are rubber, palm oil and cocoa. The company was formed from 16 others.

In 1968 London Sumatra was denationalized by the Indonesian Government on the understanding that it invested heavily in new acreage. More than £20m has been spent, with the result that London Sumatra has some 27,000 acres of immature trees.

These trees should start earning soon, as they mature, and that is the prize for which Harrisons and the group led by RIT have been contending. The 54 per cent not owned by Harrisons is worth about £33m at current prices.

When the McLeod-Sipef offer was made for London Sumatra three years ago it valued the company at 110p a share. The board of London Sumatra put the asset value at 270p a share. City analysts calculate that London Sumatra's assets are now worth between 450p and £5 a share.

The announcement that the minority shareholders were pulling out also raised questions about what they might do in the specialized area of plantation investment.

It is suggested that RIT, which will realize a big capital gain on the sale, coud be interested in Warren Plantations.

Financial Editor, page 21

Stone-Platt sells its propellor business

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Stone-Platt Industries, the Lancashire textile machinery and engineering group, is selling its marine propellor business for an undisclosed sum. This is the latest of a number of dispersals to cut the group's overdraft after it was rescued by its bankers last April.

Last November the group sold its profitable pumps division for £11.5m to Indian Head, an American company. This together with other smaller sales reduced borrowings by £14m.

Mr Robin Tavener, chief executive, said: "We do not plan to make any more major disposals or closures."

Besides selling the marine business, Stone-Platt is rationalizing other activities in the marine and mechanical division, which include a number of foundry companies. Mr Tavener said the marine business was not making a sufficient return on capital and the sale would not have much impact on group profits because of interest savings on the cash released.

The propellor business is is being sold in two parts with the controllable-pitch side going to Vickers. Vacu-Lug Investments, controlled by Mr John Langham until recently chairman of Stone-Platt's marine and mechanical division, is buying the fixed-pitch propellor business.

The prices paid will be related to net asset values at end-1979. Mr Tavener said the book value of the assets being sold or disposed of was about £6m. However, he said there would probably be a small writedown on the sale. Although the deals have nearly been finalized they are still subject to contract, which is why the price has not been disclosed.

The foundry operations in the marine and mechanical division will mostly be merged with Stone-Platt's electrical division although the reorganization may involve a small closure and some redundancies. The marine and mechanical division had total sales of £41m in 1979 and a loss (pre-interest) of £100,000.

The latest measures will leave Stone-Platt free to concentrate on its traditional textile machinery business and its electrical division.

The group's major problems have been in its textile machinery operations in the United Kingdom. In 1979 the group tumbled from pretax profits of £9.5m to losses of £2.9m. In the first half of 1980 it lost £2.5m but forecast a profit in the second half. Yesterday the shares firmed 1½p to 25½p.

Financial Editor, page 21

Ulster property group acquires Strongmead in reverse takeover

Slater story opens a new chapter in the City

Mr James Slater, the financier and latter day writer of children's books, took a further step yesterday towards an eventual return to the quoted company sector.

His private property company, Strongmead, set up with the help of Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland of Lonhro after the Slater Walker collapse, is to be acquired by Laganvale Estate, the Northern Ireland-based property group in which Strongmead has a 14 per cent stake.

The deal, which is in effect a reverse takeover, entails Strongmead placing one million of its 1.46 million Laganvale shares at 30p each with its shareholders. The balance of the shares will go to Strongmead's associates.

After this transaction Strongmead's net assets will be worth £1.4m, of which half will be in cash or near cash and the remainder will be invested in a good residential property.

The plan is that Laganvale will then acquire Strongmead on a net assets basis by April 30, after Strongmead's net worth has been certified by Laganvale's reporting accountants.

Laganvale will be issuing not more than 4.6 million shares to meet the maximum total consideration of £1.4m which in turn will take Strongmead and its associates with around 40 per cent holding. As this is well beyond the Takeover Panel's trigger point of 30 per cent for a full bid, permission is being sought to waive Rule 34. The Panel yesterday confirmed that in these circumstances permission would be no problem.




Mr Slater: on his way back to the quoted company sector.

According to Laganvale's announcement, the deal which had been rumoured for some time in the City will help to reduce its potential borrowings from the £1.4m they would have reached after Laganvale's recent purchase of a Brighton property, Mitre House, for £1.47m. It is also planning to buy a sub-lease in its shopping centre for £370,000. On top of that, Laganvale said the move will add a good quality residential property to its growing portfolio.

But interest in Laganvale shares in the stock market yesterday was certainly not on account of the group's properties; the 3½p price rise to 35p was put down to Mr Slater's presence and his role in Laganvale's affairs.

Mr Slater first emerged as a shareholder in Laganvale, a previously obscure company involved in "flat break-up" operations in the early 1970s, last year when he disclosed that he held 12.5 per cent after months of rumours about his involvement. After a rights issue to finance the Brighton purchase, Mr Slater's holding with Strongmead was up to 13.3 per cent. But he did not receive a dividend from his investment.

Laganvale's pretax profits in the first half were £38,000, compared with the previous year's losses of £1.25m. Although the forecast was for still higher profits in the second half, there was no dividend and there will be no full payment either.

Rosemary Unsworth

Iran shuns American bank loans

Iran will produce and export enough oil this year to avoid borrowing on international money markets, Mr Ali Reza Nobari, the Iranian central bank governor, said yesterday.

Mr Nobari, in London for talks with American bankers about financial claims outstanding since the Tehran-Washington agreement that freed the 52 American hostages last month, put no figure on Iran's oil production targets.

Because of Iran's war with Iraq, the country's oil output is thought by Tehran diplomats to be 700,000 barrels a day compared to a possible 2 million barrels should the conflict end.

Mr Nobari said that Iran's oil output would obviate any recourse to world money markets and added: "If we do borrow, it won't be through United States banks."

Foreign deposits recall

China's government has given Chinese companies and organizations until the end of February to bring home unauthorized foreign currency deposits abroad or face confiscation of the funds.

Austrian economy

The Austrian economy is expected to level off this year after a rapid expansion during the previous two years according to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). But Austria's inflation and unemployment rates are still likely to remain among the OECD's lowest.

Gold output up

Chinese gold production rose 14.3 per cent to a record level last year, the official New China News Agency reports.

Dutch spending plan

The Dutch Government is planning a sharp reduction in Public sector spending growth from 1981 to 1985, because of lower than expected economic growth.

Japanese imports



Herr Otto Lambsdorff (above), West Germany's economics minister, has said he intends to use every opportunity to oppose growing pressure from European trade unions and industry for restrictions on Japanese imports. He said the Japanese challenge "provides a chance for us to make an effort to improve our competitiveness".

$14.6m bus plant

Hino Motors, one of Japan's largest heavy-duty vehicle makers, will build a $14.6m (about £6.2m) bus assembly plant in New York State "within a few years", the *Nihon Keizai Shimbun* reported. Agreement has also been reached to deliver several hundred buses to New York City by the end of the year.

Belgian pay talks

Belgium's Employer's Federation has agreed to meet union and government representatives for talks on a voluntary wage limitation agreement, in the absence of which a mandatory ban would be imposed by the government.

German turnover slips

West German wholesale trade turnover fell a real 2 per cent in 1980 although the nominal total rose by about 6 per cent to DM 630,000m (£127,270m). Retail sales volume was unchanged in December over December, 1979.

Italian railway funds

The Italian state railway is to offer a $500m (£215.5m) syndicated loan and floating rate note issue on the Eurodollar market managed by Soditic and S. G. Warburg, according to the transport ministry.

Finland oil price rise

Finland will pay about $38.5 a barrel for Soviet crude oil after a rise of about $4 was agreed in Moscow. Finland is to import some 7 million tonnes of Soviet crude this year under a bilateral trade agreement.

Malaysian aid cutback

Britain is to reduce its technical assistance to Malaysia from next year, Sir Donald Hawley, the outgoing British High Commissioner, said in Kuala Lumpur. The Government had taken the decision because Malaysia was near to becoming a "developed country".

Enthusiasts on two wheels are driving themselves out of business

Motorcycle boom bypasses dealers

While Britain has been enjoying an upsurge of interest in motorcycling in the past few years, the country's 2,500 motorcycle dealers apparently have shown a remarkable inability to capitalize on the boom. Sales are soaring, but profits have tumbled and there is now a danger that many dealers will be forced out of business.

A new report by *ICC Business Ratios*, published today concludes that for most dealers the past three years has been "an unending picture of falling profitability, increased stocks, declining return on capital and generally poor asset utilization".

The trouble, it seems, is that most dealers, like their customers, are enthusiasts rather than "hard-nosed" businessmen. Motorcycle salesmen must stop regarding their activity as a hobby, says the report, "and must take a serious look at the way their cousins the car dealers have managed to survive on wafer-thin margins by astute financial planning and clever marketing".

Last year was the best for motorcycle sales in Britain since 1959 and there are now an estimated 1.4 million two-wheelers on the roads, an increase of 11 per cent since 1976. According to the report, the 50 leading high street sales companies increased turnover by 22 per cent in 1978 and 17 per cent in 1979, and one achieved annual sales approaching £3m. But few, says the report, have been able to "make a silk purse out of a sow's ear".

It adds: "Indeed, if the performance of the country's top motorcycle-outlets is any indication of trading patterns in the future, then over the next year or so a significant number of firms could find they are driving themselves out of business unless they take some swift action now to correct an already well established pattern of financial trends."

In the past two or three years, many companies' profit margins have been halved. Only one, it is said, now has a margin in double figures and about 12 are operating on negative margins. In the three years to October, 1979, the average profitability of the 60 leading firms in the survey fell from 18.8 per cent to 8.5 per cent, while total sales rose by 44 per cent.

The signs of declining profitability were apparent in 1977 and 1978, ICC says, but few companies took corrective action. "It remains to be seen if firms have taken advantage of the upturn in sales to put their houses in order; it would be reasonable to expect, at least on their past performance, that they have not and are prepared to live with margins as low as 1 per cent."

The report lays emphasis on the rapid growth in dealers' stocks and debtors compared to sales. The average stock turnover figure fell from 4.7 to 4.1 times per year while the average debt collection period nearly doubled from 15 to 29 days. "With interest rates so high these are crucial areas of management control and together they go a long way to explaining the industry's declining performance."

One result has been a drop in the number of sales outlets. Last October there were an estimated 2,402 United Kingdom dealers, many of them one-man concerns or corner shops, compared with about 3,000 in the past. The small operators, says the report, "are probably content to exist with modest livings since their enthusiasm for motorcycles and motorcycling often outweighs their enthusiasm for making money".

Most of the industry's business now is concerned with the sale of new and second-hand imported machines after the invasion of the United Kingdom market by the Japanese. The decline of the British manufacturing industry, says the report, is "as legendary as the dissolution of the monasteries", and as a result most dealers are in the hands of overseas suppliers "with all the implications this can have for the high street trader".

Motor Cycle Dealers (2nd Edition) ICC Business Ratios, 81 City Road, London. £80.

Edward Townsend

EEC plans textile information centre

By John Huxley

European clothing and textile manufacturers have agreed to set up an information centre which will assist industrialists, trade associations and governments in marketing and decision-making.

The centre is regarded within the European Community as an important initiative towards remedying the lack of reliable data on the textile and clothing trade.

Mr Camille Blum, the Belgian director general of Comitextil, the coordinating committee for the Community Textile industries, said that the new centre, which will be located in Brussels, will publish an information bulletin.

Comitextil is cooperating with its counterpart in the clothing industry in the creation of the centre, which comes after feasibility studies by both organizations.

The main objective of the centre will be to "provide the textile and clothing companies with information which allows them to manage their businesses with a perfect knowledge of the market".

Its creation comes at a time when both industries are under severe pressure, and are pressing the Brussels Commission and EEC member governments to seek a much more protective Multi Fibre Arrangement, the basis of international trade in textiles and clothing which falls due for renewal at the end of this year.

European manufacturers, especially those in Britain, want more stringent limitations placed on the imports of goods from low-cost sources, which they claim are aggravating their present difficulties. Despite intensive lobbying, most governments so far have been unwilling to commit themselves on the form of renegotiation they will seek.

Textile and clothing industry leaders clearly hope that, apart from assisting companies to plan their market strategies, the centre will provide statistical information which may assist their case for further support.

Comitextil says in its latest bulletin that present methods of monitoring imports are "quite insufficient". In some cases, they say, it is not even possible to detect upsurges in foreign competition in domestic markets, which is regarded as a frequent cause of disruption.

The centre plans to remedy the shortcomings in official statistics by monitoring, in greater detail and more frequently, import penetration levels and the effect on textiles and clothing of other changes in trade. Comitextil believes this will help the industry and governments to understand better the impact of imports throughout the textiles-to-clothing chain.

Photograph by David Jones

Mr Walter Goldsmith, left, director general of the Institute of Directors, presents *The Times* Grand Prix award in London yesterday to Mr Anthony Hill, a director of Unilever, watched by Mr Alan Watson and Mr Robin Morton, of Charles Barker CBC, Unilever's advertising agency which shares in the award. The companies won the Grand Prix for the best advertisements of company results in 1980.

Inmos to launch latest microchip design

By Bill Johnstone

Inmos, the microchip company whose majority shareholding is held by the National Enterprise Board (NEB) is to make its international debut next Wednesday in New York.

The British company, backed by a government investment of £50m, will unveil details of its latest product to several thousand delegates from dozens of countries involved in microelectronics at the International Solid State Conference.

The new design is called a 64K dynamic RAM, a chip with over 64,000 memory cells for use in computers. It has the added advantage of having cells which can be made to replace others that become inoperative.

The new chip is an important development for Inmos. The company's projections for all its products suggest sales of £150m in 1984, growing to £200m a year later.

New Saudi five-year plan could favour UK exports

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor

Saudi Arabia's just launched third five-year plan, worth about £100,000m is, because of its emphasis on industrialization of the country, likely to favour British efforts to export compared with earlier plans with a stress on infrastructure construction. Low labour cost countries such as South Korea have mopped up many important construction contracts.

This was one of the key points which emerged from a seminar on Saudi Arabia's new plan organized by the Confederation of British Industry in London yesterday and attended by about 400 leading businessmen.

They heard a warning from Mr Cecil Parkinson, Minister of Trade, that, because the trend in Saudi Arabia was towards local manufacture, to stay in the market British companies would have to be more willing to enter joint manufacturing ventures.

Anybody who saw the country solely as a market for direct exports could eventually lose business to competitors more willing to involve themselves in Saudi Arabia's industrial ambitions, Mr Parkinson said.

The thrust towards joint ventures was underlined by Dr Faisal Al Bashir, Saudi Arabia's deputy minister of planning, who said that British companies would have to be prepared to share technology and managerial and technical skills. There would be more help for the private sector in Saudi Arabia, including the provision of long-term interest-free loans, he said.

A study of the plan by the Committee for Middle East Trade (Comet), showed that imports should continue to grow during the period by a real annual rate of 7 per cent, which though slower than in the previous plan was at a faster rate than had been expected.

What could benefit British exporters was more emphasis on productive industries such as manufacturing and mining and agriculture.

One additional source of stimulus for increasing local ownership of businesses and fueling investment in the production sector could be development of a stock exchange, now under consideration by the Saudi Arabian Government.

The Third Saudi Arabian Development Plan, 1980-85: Committee for Middle East Trade, £5.

Society offers homes aid

By Sylvia Morris

The one million members of the Provincial Building Society have somewhere to turn for advice if or when they are made redundant. The society, the ninth largest in the country, yesterday announced a series of measures to help the unemployed.

As part of the package, managers at the 200 branches throughout the country will advise those facing unemployment on what to do about their mortgages.

Solutions include suspending payment for up to one year, or reducing the monthly costs by extending the term of the mortgage or switching to an "option mortgage" if this proves more suitable.

Borrowers will be advised as to whether to pay off their mortgage with any redundancy payment or savings.

"We have to recognize that mortgage repayments, especially for those who have only just bought their homes, may be difficult or even impossible to keep going when a borrower is made redundant", Mr Brian Holmes, chief general manager of the society, said yesterday. "The main purpose of a building society is to help people buy and to keep their own homes. We recognize that jobs become redundant, not people, so our role does not change."

Branch managers also will issue information sheets giving advice on the amount of redundancy pay people can expect, tax problems and how to manage their finances, including mortgage payments and savings problems.

When it comes to investing a lump sum, building societies have an obvious role, but the society points out that it will not necessarily be the right answer for those who do not pay tax.

Provincial hopes that any goodwill it earns now will help with its future business.

The measures are the result of a survey, commissioned for the Provincial from Gallup.

It shows that people facing redundancy lack advice from all quarters. Companies and trade unions are hesitant to help.

The survey confirmed that very few of those who lose their jobs turn to building societies or banks for advice, although when they do, they generally find the advice useful and act upon it.

Commenting on the scheme, Mr Holmes said: "Half the population has a building society account and one in 11 adults is currently out of work. The implication of these statistics goes well beyond what may or may not be done with golden handshakes."

Although Provincial's main concern is to provide advice on the effect of redundancy on domestic financial matters, it is also encouraging workers made redundant to set up their own cooperatives. The society is handing out information on the Cooperative Development Agency, set up by Parliament.

Community service plan for jobless

The Manpower Services Commission yesterday announced a £332m scheme aimed at providing 25,000 temporary community service jobs for the long term unemployed.

Sir Richard O'Brien, chairman, made clear that this was only intended as a start and the commission would be approaching the Government for further funds to expand the scheme.

"These people and unemployed teenagers are the major casualties of rising unemployment. Most are unskilled, most left school at the minimum school-leaving age, few have had any training and most have had a sequence of unskilled jobs over the years," Sir Richard said.

Society should not turn its back on the victims of unemployment, he said, urging that private industry and nationalized industry should come forward to sponsor the new scheme, which replaces the Special Temporary Employment Programme.

He said that, in December last year, there were 390,000 people who had been out of work for more than a year. The number was rising and the commission thought it would reach 500,000 or higher within the next 12 months.

People on the scheme would be given work of value to local communities.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Promoting small firms in urban areas

From Sir Harold Wilson, MP for Huyton (Labour)

Sir, The Confederation of British Industry's proposal for the coordination of the existing agencies which assist the development of small industrial firms, reported in your issue of February 9, is to be welcomed. Steps for achieving this were set out in the main *Report of the Committee to Review the Functioning of Financial Institutions* (Cmnd 7937), published last summer, and in our *Report on the Financing of Small Firms*, (Cmnd 7503 of March 1979).

The most important priority is to bring England into line with Scotland and Wales, which have their own Scottish and Welsh Development Authorities, as well as the Highlands and Islands Development Board and the Development Board for Rural Wales respectively. England has the Council for Small Industries in Rural Areas (Cosira) whose operations are confined to purely rural areas and to country towns with less than 15,000 population.

What my colleagues and I sought to see established would be a "Cosurba", to provide for urban areas of England something approaching the facilities available in Wales and Scotland. This would not need any elaborate supervisory machinery. Cosira works under the aegis of the Development Commission, set up by Lloyd George in the early years of the century. Its urban counterpart could easily be fitted into the commission's activities, at any rate for the first few years.

HAROLD WILSON,
House of Commons,
London SW1A 0AA.

Design of calendars

From Mr R. J. Evershed

Sir, Mr Leavor ("Standard design for calendars", Letters, February 5) will be interested to know that the British Standards Institution lay down a detailed specification for how weeks are to be numbered (BS 4760). This includes the requirement for Monday to be the first day of the commercial week.

So far as layout of dates is concerned, however, there is no standardization, although it is generally found to be easier to read a calendar where the days of the week read left to right rather than top to bottom.

In the absence of any official regulation on either of these aspects of calendar design, there will no doubt continue to be a number of different layouts, according to the whim of publisher or customer.

Yours faithfully,
R. J. EVERSHED,
Managing Director,
Eversheds,
Alma Road,
St Albans,
Hertfordshire, AL1 3AS.
February 5.

Overseas mail rates

From Professor N. Kurti

Sir, I was disappointed with the somewhat disingenuous reply of the Director of International Postal Affairs (February 6) to the correspondence regretting the *increase* in postal charges to countries of the European Community when charges on mail in the reverse direction have just been *decreased*. He says that *only* (my italics) Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, France and The Netherlands apply lower postal charges. He should have said that *only* Belgium, Italy and Luxembourg (responsible probably for less than a quarter of our Economic Community postal traffic) apply the higher rates.

Yours faithfully,
N. KURTI,
Department of Engineering Science,
University of Oxford,
Parks Road,
Oxford OX1 3PJ.

Self-regulation at Lloyd's

From Sir Graham Page, MP for Crosby (Conservative)

Sir, With reference to the report (February 11) "Compromise talks start on Bill for self-regulation at Lloyd's", I have no arrangement to meet Lady Middleton or any External Members of Lloyd's who are not MPs. The Lloyd's Bill has not been withdrawn. Neither Lloyd's nor I have any intention of withdrawing it. The Bill has not faced "parliamentary opposition during its second reading last month": it has not yet had a second reading. No specific meeting of Conservative MPs has been arranged for Thursday evening—although, of course, I discuss the contents of the Bill from time to time with interested MPs.

I will not weary you with a recitation of further errors in that item by your insurance correspondent who made no inquiries of me before writing it.

GRAHAM PAGE,
House of Commons.

Government stake in BL

From Mr Richard Page, MP for Hertfordshire South West (Conservative) and Mr Hal Miller, MP for Bromsgrove and Redditch (Conservative)

Sir, We believe everyone shares the concern that was expressed in the letter published on February 7, over the future of British Leyland and the sheer size of government support. However, while pointing out a constituency and a personal involvement, we believe the views as set out do indicate a simplistic approach which, if implemented, would ensure the collapse of BL. Setting aside the demoralizing effect to the BL workforce of seeing the unplanned piece-meal removal of minor parts of the company there are two main factors to be considered.

First, one of the major strengths of BL is that of the depth and quality of its dealer network throughout the country. While already struggling to maintain sales throughout the removal of one or more franchise modules into the hands of other manufacturers would obviously with reduced sales cause dealer closures or conversions with a resultant loss of orders on the factory.

Secondly, disposal of presently profitable parts would merely lower the banks borrowings and apart from a reduction in interest would necessitate an increased subsidy to keep the other parts operating.

Any decision over the future of British Leyland, no matter whether it be to continue, sell off or part close down, must lie in a tightly coordinated plan involving the whole plant and not a haphazard disposal which would create more difficulties and cost than it would solve.

HAL MILLER,
RICHARD PAGE,
House of Commons.

Training boards

From Mr P. Palmer Jones

Sir, That the Centre for Policy Studies report on industrial training boards is irrefutable, is proved by the construction industry that trained both more and better apprentices before ITBs were conceived, without the £200m plus annual levies or the considerable administrative costs within the firms forced, without consultation, into participation.

Unless government gets off our backs on this typical bureaucratic extravaganza, the private industry will never get off its economic knees.

P. PALMER JONES,
F. P. Caine Limited,
Borough Green,
Nr Sevenoaks,
Kent TN15 8AX.



هكذا من الأصل

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Curbing the fringe operator

…ineral exploration stocks have always had dubious reputation, but it has taken one or …re well publicized episodes, notably that of …uble Eagle, to push The Stock Exchange …ouncil into plugging the listing loophole … Rule 163 (1) (e). This rule, originally … up five years ago to encourage capital … the North Sea, has been used by some …reign companies to raise cash before they …ve been quoted in their country of incor…ration. A clear inequality of information …s resulted.

Since it is frequently difficult for British …vestors to assess small foreign exploration …mpanies—not just for the obvious reason … distance but because of geology, local …vironment and so on—The Stock Ex…ange is quite right to insist, as it now will, …at price sensitive information released …sewhere is also available in London. …ven the speculative enthusiasm they …ouse, Canadian and possibly Australian …mpanies will be most affected.

As is often the case with new regulations, …e problem is how to avoid deterring …mpanies and investors from using the …rket. Much of the attraction of Rule …3 (1) (e) is that companies can circum…nt the normal listing requirements. By …nviting" such companies to reach agree…nt, before their shares are traded, on the …closure of price sensitive information, … council presumably hopes that the …dy will be eliminated in advance and the …nest feel bound by their agreement.

As its ultimate deterrent the council can …n dealings and the understanding reached …h Canadian markets should assist.

The obverse of this tightening up is …other new provision allowing dealings in …itish-based mineral exploration compan… which operate overseas but which do …t qualify for full listing or for the …listed market. This should give investors …eater access to the North American oil and … markets. Both new regulations should …ke this fast-moving and often rewarding …rket more open for British investors.

ment services of the big firms or give the personal service required by small private investors—is tending to lose its *raison d'etre*.

Moreover, The Stock Exchange itself, recognizing the weak points in its defence of the Office of Fair Trading's allegation that it is operating a restrictive practice, is openly encouraging change—allowing jobbers to have direct access to international clients, for example.

However, the road towards the eventual future structure of the securities markets in this country is still a long one: even if the court were to ask for major changes from The Stock Exchange the appeal procedure now available under restrictive practices law could mean that none of these changes would need to be operational until 1985 to judge from the likely timescale of events.

…ockbroking

…ationalization …oves

…is inevitable that at a time of recession …d of uncertainty due to the impending …strictive Practices Court hearing at which …e Stock Exchange will have to defend …elf (or rather its rule book) that there …uld be speculation about when cold winds …ll again start to blow down Throgmorton …eet.

A number of unconnected events recently …e tended to support the view of the gloom …chants that a wholesale rationalization of … stockbroking business (not to mention …her contraction among stockjobbers) is …t to occur.

…irst, there was the decision of Rowe …d, a small but high-profile firm, to with…v from The Stock Exchange and develop …nancial services business. This is a trend …h appeared to point to the future many …for stockbrokers anyway if a Restrictive …tices Court ruling were to break up the …ting Stock Exchange cartel allowing …ks and merchant banks, and others …haps, to deal in securities and forcing …kbroking firms to compete as best they …ld in an openly competitive environment.

…econdly, there has been a "hammering", … small stockbroker, Norman Collins, not …arently significant as such but neverthe… the first failure for five years. And …terday there was another merger when …ndon Langner opted to go in with Capel…e Myers.

…n a gossipy place like the stock market …se events taken together are seen by some …straws in the wind, but actually there is …real evidence of a pattern of pressure …lding up. Business, after a dull period …und Christmas, has revived and is now …k to the sort of levels seen last year. …er the traumas of the 1974/75 bear …ket, monitoring of the financial condition …member firms by The Stock Exchange is …h more rigorous and nothing suggests …t the situation is deteriorating.

…hat said, there will inevitably be mergers …ply because it is acknowledged that the …ddle ground of stockbroking—those firms …t cannot offer the sophisticated invest…

London Sumatra

Harrisons makes its move

The terse statement from Harrisons & Crosfield (H & C) yesterday that it is considering buying out the 54 per cent of London Sumatra Plantations it does not hold signals the end of a long running duel between H & C and the group which failed to gain control of London Sumatra three years ago. It seems clear that RIT, McLeod Russel, Sipef and the others have decided to take their profits. At yesterday's price of 378p, up 35p, compared with the 35-40p at which they bought, these profits are handsome indeed.

H & C has steadily raised its stake in London Sumatra, as it can under the Takeover Panel's rules, to the point at which it effectively controls the company. The great prize over which the protagonists were fighting is the huge acreage of immature trees, mainly rubber, on which more than £20m has been invested over the last decade or so. Before long, these will bring in a tidy income. Having lost management control, the previous bidders decided that the capital gains offset whatever income might accrue from the growing acreage.

Where all this leaves the individual shareholders in London Sumatra is less clear. Depending on the assessment of the plantation assets, London Sumatra is worth between 450p and 500p a share. H & C is offering the market price, which crept up for a couple of days before the announcement and jumped yesterday. That would be a discount of about 100p or 20 per cent. Some shareholders may feel that H & C is getting the assets cheaply but the argument is complicated by the extent to which Indonesia's political risk is discounted in the assets. Meanwhile, RIT could transfer its attentions to other areas, Warren Plantations being one.

● *The sale of Stone-Platt's propeller business should mark the end of the programme of major disposals set in train after the group was rescued by its bankers last April. The group has been steadily retrenching to concentrate on its core textile machinery business and its profitable electrical division.*

The propeller business, although it has never been a major drain on the group and in fact made profits in the first half of 1980, has suffered from the slump in shipbuilding and the cash tied up there can clearly be better used in reducing group borrowings.

The impact of this sale will not be as great as that of the pump division, sold last November for £11.5m. The book value of the assets being sold or closed is £6m and there will be a book loss as a result of these latest deals. But quite what Stone-Platt's balance sheet will look like at the year-end is still a matter of guess-work.

The sale of the pumps division and other disposals brought debt down to about £49m—not far short of shareholders' funds. Meanwhile, in the second half of 1980 the group should have wiped out some of the first-half losses but there will be overseas tax to pay and presumably further rationalization costs leading to a sizable net loss to be written off reserves.

But the group still has a long way to go in reducing borrowings and rejuvenating its slimmed-down textile machinery business in Lancashire.

Economic notebook

Supply siders chase a chimera

With Mr Reagan's assumption of the United States Presidency, the concept of "supply side" economics has been propelled to the centre of the political stage—just as "monetarism" was a few years back. The problem with this politicization of economic concepts is that it usually results in their being reduced to labels which are banded about with a singular lack of discrimination; and their meaning is taken to be whatever a particular advocate would like it to be.

It is quite clear that for some advocates "supply side" economics is nothing more than a euphemism for cutting taxes, usually in a way that redistributes income from the least well-off members of society to the wealthier groups.

In its broadest sense, of course, supply side economics embraces any number of methods and techniques aimed at boosting productivity and output and generally reducing impediments to the supply of goods. The pursuit of such goals may involve raising business investment, increasing manpower training and standards of education, reducing industrial accidents, energy conservation and anything else which would lead to a more efficient use of resources.

In this broader sense, then, policies for improving the supply side of the economy can be taken to include the industrial strategy that so preoccupied the last Labour Government, a reduction in taxes and regulations, planning agreements or even asset stripping.

Viewed in this way, almost everybody would probably support some course of action to tackle the supply side of the economy. Even neo-Keynesians, who argue that "demand creates its own supply", would not be likely to object to policies that raised investment and eliminated bottle-necks.

However, for conservative economists in the United States supply side economics essentially means reducing taxes on incomes, to encourage harder work, and providing tax incentives for business investment and private savings. Although it is accepted that the rich will benefit most from such tax cuts, it is argued that poorer Americans stand to gain more in the longer run from higher economic growth.

Incentives

The economist most closely identified with the "supply side" approach is Arthur Laffer of the University of Southern California, who maintains that high tax rates have reduced incentives to work, invest and save, with the result that productivity and tax revenues have fallen. He claims that a reduction in tax rates would actually raise revenue for the government by raising economic activity.

There is virtually no evidence to support the belief that cuts in income tax might ultimately prove self-financing in this way and the idea has been described "chimerical" in a paper by Kay and Hemming of the Institute for Fiscal Studies in Britain.

Certainly, the Thatcher Government's brief flirtation with "supply side" economics can not be counted a success. Both Sir Geoffrey Howe's Budgets made substantial reductions in the tax burden of those with the highest incomes.

The first Budget gave 37 per cent of the tax hand out—about £1,500m—to the richest 7 per cent of the community. Those earning £50,000 a year received take-home pay rises of 50 per cent. The second Budget gave 14 per cent of the entire hand out to the richest 2 per cent.

Yet, more than 18 months after that first Budget, investment is falling and expected to decline much more. Production has plummeted.

The problem is that company investment is related to levels of demand. Industrialists do not invest in new plant and machinery unless they see a market for their increased production. This means that if governments desire to encourage greater investment, they must maintain a high level of aggregate demand.

But on both sides of the Atlantic policies aimed at managing aggregate demand are held responsible for inflation and declining productivity. This is why economists have been looking more closely at the supply side of the economy.

There is nothing new in this. Like monetarism, supply side economics only puts a modern dress on classical and neo-classical economic theory. In effect, modern supply siders are resurrecting "Say's Law", named after the French economist Jean Baptiste Say (1767-1832).

Emphasis

This law says that there cannot be a lasting deficiency in aggregate demand or, correspondingly, general over-production, because the act of producing generates incomes sufficient to purchase what is produced. In other words, "supply creates its own demand"—the opposite of what Keynesians have argued. This line of reasoning was thought to have been pretty effectively demolished by Keynes when he showed how it was possible for money to lay idle rather than being used for consumption or investment.

In fact, the reduction in personal taxes advocated by modern "supply siders" will itself add to demand (in the best Keynesian tradition), unless allied to a monetarist policy of cutting government borrowing and spending.

The differences between supply siders and Keynsians in advocating income tax cuts (apart, perhaps, from a concern by the former for the effects on the Budget) is the emphasis that supply siders place on incentives to work and save. But it is far from clear what the effect of tax cuts would actually be.

Lower income taxes would allow people to do less work and still maintain their standard of living. Similarly, if taxes were cut on income from savings, it would allow people to spend a higher proportion of their income and maintain a specific growth in post-tax savings. It certainly cannot be assumed that people would want to work harder and save more.

It is a tenet of supply siders that taxes should be cut proportionately more for the wealthiest groups because they save more and will, therefore, make more money available for investment. But, viewed from a Keynesian standpoint, such a redistribution of income would be economically mistaken—apart from being morally dubious. This is because the higher the propensity to save and the lower the propensity to consume, then the lower will be the multiplier effects of a tax cut boost to national income and less will be the employment created. In such a case, the savings of the rich may grow, but demand may not be sufficient to make more company investment worthwhile.

On the other hand, if tax hand-outs are spent, this will raise demand, encourage investment and raise national income to a point where savings are sufficient to match the higher investment (even if the propensity to save is initially low). In this way supply and demand are raised simultaneously. But, of course, it all depends on what you mean by "supply side" economics.

Melvyn Westlake

Mr Eric Varley (left) who as Secretary of State for Industry in 1975 helped to put together the Chrysler rescue package, and M Jean-Paul Parayre, head of Peugeot-Citroen, which took over the Linwood plant from Chrysler.

Why Talbot has called a halt at Linwood

Peter Hill

Only a few days ago ministers were effusively welcoming plans by Nissan Motor which are likely to lead to a modern highly automated Japanese car manufacturing plant being built in the United Kingdom.

No one was more effusive than Mr Norman Tebbit, the Minister for Industry, who, though suitably restrained when asked how much government money Nissan might expect to receive, was in no doubt of the massive benefits which the Nissan venture would confer on the ailing British motor industry.

That was the good news. Yesterday came the bad news. Peugeot-Citroen, the French motor company announced that it was closing down its Linwood plant in Renfrewshire. Production of Avenger and Sunbeam models bearing the Talbot badge will finish by the end of June this year and the entire operation—employing 4,800 workers—will be phased out by the end of this year.

The decision was not unexpected, certainly not among the plant's workers, although there has been the predictable outcry from Opposition MPs concerned not only about the immediate impact on Linwood itself but also about the knock-on effect.

The transfer of the Linwood labour force to the dole queues is only the start. Although the British Steel Corporation was playing down the impact of the Linwood closure on the steel strip which it supplies to the plant from the giant Ravenscraig-Gartcosh complex (at present about 5-10 per cent of its production), new markets will have to be found and that will not be easy. Many other suppliers will also feel a chill wind.

It is by any standards an enormous blow to Scotland and to the Government. Mr Robert Scott, a body shop worker at the plant was in no doubt yesterday where to lay the blame.

"Mrs Thatcher and the Tories have caused the closure. There has been no money invested in the plant. What we needed was a new model", he observed bitterly.

To be fair, the Government has bent over backwards to entice Peugeot-Citroen to keep Linwood going and has stated expressly that it would be more than prepared to lubricate the investment wheels with generous handouts.

In detailed discussions with the French owners — most recently on Monday evening this week when M Jean Paul Parayre, president of Peugeot-Citroen met Sir Keith Joseph, the Industry Secretary—ministers have outlined the extent of that help.

In return for the new Peugeot model, codenamed the C15 (a replacement for the 104) being directed to Linwood, the Government would have been prepared to offer the standard 22 per cent regional development grant available for companies investing in a special development area topped up with 10 per cent selective assistance. The total aid package would have been worth about £40m—about a third of the estimated cost of modernizing and retooling the Linwood plant.

But M Parayre and his colleagues, who include the ubiquitous Mr George Turnbull (formerly of British Leyland and Hyundai Motors of South Korea), were not persuaded. The company's statement made that much clear.

"If it had been financially possible to continue with Linwood, we would have done so. But because its production throughout has been inadequate to cover all the costs associated with a complex car manufacturing operation, it has proved impossible to avoid continuing big losses."

Like the rest of the motor industry Peugeot-Citroen has felt the chill winds of recession. Last year the company is estimated to have lost between £182.7m and £200.1m. Operating losses and associated interest charges from Linwood in 1979 were more than £20m and losses for last year, according to the company, were "even higher".

With an air of total finality, Talbot said yesterday: "The company simply cannot afford to continue with losses of this magnitude".

Whatever the sheer weight of economic circumstances which have forced the closure, Linwood's demise is going to cause a political storm. People are going to start recalling the undertakings given both by Chrysler and subsequently Peugeot-Citroen when it acquired the Chrysler UK operation in January 1978 for a nominal $1.

In 1975, the Labour government, with Mr Eric Varley the then Secretary of State for Industry, in the vanguard, put together (with the help of the London and Scottish clearing banks) a rescue package totalling £162.5m. That expensively constructed lifeboat followed a threat by Chrysler's American parent to liquidate its entire United Kingdom operation in the wake of accumulated losses of £80m.

That rescue was accompanied by solemn declarations of intent by Chrysler which, *inter alia* stated: "Following the reorganization . . . Chrysler UK will embark on a programme of modernization and investment in new models which will help it grow and prosper in the United Kingdom and specifically, to provide continued employment at CUK's principal plants located at Ryton, Stoke, Luton, Dunstable and Linwood."

On the takeover by Peugeot, undertakings given by the French company included an assertion that it would "continue employment at all Chrysler UK's facilities including the principal plants", as stated in the original Chrysler declaration. But, the French package included the now pertinent escape clause that this undertaking would be adhered to "to the extent consistent with the prevailing economic conditions".

Those economic circumstances will be the defence which the company will plead if the Government demands repayment—as it could—of the £28m which formed part of the original rescue package which is repayable from 1985 to 1990. In addition, there is an outstanding loan of £35m provided by the banking consortium and other bank loans amounting to £22m. The Government loan, although unsecured, is guaranteed by Peugeot.

Under Mr Turnbull, Talbot has made every effort to reconcile itself to the recession-hit United Kingdom market. Thousands of jobs have been shed, pay restraint has been observed and productivity has leapt by 25 per cent.

Impressive improvements certainly but at the end of the day the kind of facts which tell are that the Talbot Poissy factory outside Paris turns out as many cars in a single shift as the Ryton assembly plant in one week.

Last year Talbot gained around 6 per cent of the United Kingdom market and Peugeot about 1 per cent.

But the credibility of the undertakings about maintenance of United Kingdom manufacturing, while undermined, has not been totally tossed aside. Car production will be concentrated at the Midlands plants; another model (involving new investment) is planned at Ryton and the company plans a revamping of its dealer network to secure increased market share.

"It is our intention", declared Talbot yesterday, "to maintain a strong manufacturing presence in the United Kingdom allied to increased sales of both Talbot and Peugeot products". Cold comfort to the Linwood workers—and another hostage to fortune?

Making sure metal can stand up to the North Sea

Lying in an Aberdeen laboratory are torn anchor chains, fractured steel shafts and giant bolts snapped in two, which testify to the power of the North Sea and the vulnerability of metal.

This shrapnel from the oil industry is under investigation by technologists who specialize in checking the soundness of material used in the oil industry and finding out why it fails.

Hardly anywhere in the world has oil been produced under such severe conditions as those found in the North Sea. The relentlessly rough weather imposes a stress on man-made materials which demands a constant watch.

Failure could be triply disastrous. More than 2,000 people work offshore, living on gigantic artificial islands. The collapse of a platform, as the Alexander Kielland disaster showed, means an inevitable loss of life.

Secondly there is the risk of wide-scale pollution and with it loss of production which could quickly run into millions of pounds; and there is the high price of repairing a structure at sea.

"Prevention is better than repair," says Mr Gregory Marshall, managing director of Oilfab Project Services, one of the specialists in this field.

His laboratory specializes in two services—high speed chemical analysis of the metal used in offshore equipment and a computer-based quality assurance programme which speeds up the traditional mill inspection and gives a computer print-out in which suspect material shows up immediately.

What the systems guard against particularly is the likelihood of a brittle fracture occurring in parts of a platform that are constantly under stress. Such fractures spread at the speed of sound and happen without warning in metal which is not sufficiently tough. Classic examples of such spectacular collapses include the oilrig Sea Gem and the wartime liberty ships which snapped in half.



Mr Gregory Marshall with a broken gear shaft brought in for examination.

A few filings are removed from any area in doubt. Using a spectrometer, a remelt furnace and a computer the technicians can get fast results without having to take pieces out of a structure for destruction testing.

Checks on steel plates and tubes at the fabrication stage are now standard practice. The qualities in steel required for the North Sea are such that customers usually put their own inspection teams into the steel mill, in addition to the certifying authority working on behalf of the government, to monitor the material as it is produced. Anything that does not meet the specification is rejected.

Normally, only one set of tests is conducted which could allow a small proportion of inadequate plate to slip through.

The Aberdeen company analyses information about the plate or pipe against a bank of material collected on similar metal. Inconsistencies stand out sharply, indicating that a particular piece of steel warrants a closer look.

"It ensures that steel which has met the specification purely by chance never ends up as a critically important part of the structure where it could cause problems," says Mr Marshall.

"There are two principal reasons why metal will fail—because it is either chemically or mechanically imperfect. It is clearly essential that failure should not happen in the North Sea."

Ronald Faux

Business Diary: Cobblers' lot ● Fair deal for nurses?

…n Timpson, to whom Business Diary spoke yesterday, has …e quick on his feet to stay …d of the game in his busi… He is managing director …William Timpson, the shoe … chain founded by his great …ndfather.

…mpson says that, depression …no, people are no longer …centrating on cheapish …owaway" rubber-soled …s, but are going for the …e expensive leather article …vell.

…his means that the repair … of the business is bouncing …, so much so that the shoe …ness is looking a little more … what it was in old great…ndfather William's day.

…mpsons has about 500 shoe…s of one sort or another … about 200 repair outfits.

…ere is still a long way to … however, before this latest …ion takes cobblers back to … palmy days of the stiletto … The stilettos needed con…t retipping and the heels …selves were always snap…

…ne strange beneficiary of a …er fashion in ladies' shoes …member was Rentokil. When …form shoes were in, it …ted one lady's footwear for …dworm.

…mpsons is the second big… force in shoe retailing here …r the British Shoe Corpora… (Lilley & Skinner, Saxone …others).

…hn Timpson let slip that … next fashion that could … off is in retailing itself. …sees discount shoe outlets …ming important and is …ng the market already with …iscount shop under a non…pson name somewhere in …ain.

Wallchart

IN ORDER TO PROMOTE MORE LUCID, CONCISE, INTERNAL COMMUNICATIONS

...YOUR TRAINING DEPARTMENT HAS COMPILED FOR YOUR GUIDANCE....

...THIS SEVENTY FOUR PAGE TRAINING MANUAL...."

GLYN WALL

● London is to have its first, possibly annual, international nursing job fair. For two days next month the rooms of the Royal Garden Hotel will bulge with nurses of all kinds—students, those actually qualified and working and some who have trained but are "resting".

As many as 2,000 are expected to respond to advertisements inviting them at no cost to meet prospective employees from perhaps fifty hospitals. They will attend seminars on what nursing is like in America and learn whether the bedpans really are paved with gold on the other side of the Atlantic.

The idea has overtones of Thomas Hardy's hiring fairs, where a few employers had the pick of legions of farm workers, and seems admirably suited to the 19th century economics now so much in favour.

But the literary allusion is lost on the Boston-based organizers—the Prime National Publishing Corporation, whose main business is the publication of a trade paper for nurses. Indeed, for them the idea is old hat, because it diversified into job conferences almost seven years ago, and runs them regularly for nurses and occasionally for computer people.

As far as their man Paul Sullivan is concerned this is the most efficient way to get recruits and recruiters under one roof, the better "to alleviate the shortage and mal-distribution of nurses between London, Canada and the United States".

The original plan was for the alleviation to be all one way, with staff-starved American hospitals employing trained British nurses, but a number of United States hospitals baulked at the $2,700 (£1,100) price tag for the package trip (although sightseeing was included) for just a few days in London. "We had hoped to attract 50 recruitment people from American hospitals", Sullivan says, "but so far we have signed up about 25.

"Then we discovered British hospitals have staff shortages, too, so we decided it would be fairer to make space available to them also."

The response so far has been good. It is cheaper for British participants, of course, because there are no transport or accommodation charges.

Sullivan's company earns its profit by making all the arrangements—hiring the hall and sub-letting stall space to the recruiters. Apart from the occasional disaster, as in Atlanta last autumn, when only a few recruiters turned up, the idea works well in the United States.

They run about 15 of the sessions a year, mainly in the big northern cities like Boston, Chicago, New York and Los Angeles.

Even if his fair is a success, he does not foresee a "nurse drain" to America, at least not immediately. "We actively discourage people from taking or offering new jobs at the conference because the atmosphere is so divorced from where they will end up working," he said.

"It is primarily a forum for the exchange of information. But, what we find in America is that people come back the following year having thought about their future. Then they are ready to move."

Thus, if all goes well, this year's fair is only the beginning.

● Kenneth Baker, the Government's new Minister for Industry and Information Technology (Indinfotech) is losing no time in getting to grips with the brave new world of high technology which the Prime Minister and Sir Keith Joseph, his department chief, regard as the seed corn of the country's industrial regeneration.

Baker has arranged a series of trials of the world's leading teletext systems, Prestel and Viewdata, within the Industry Department.

But the new minister is also apparently taking things a stage further. The latest word is that a 2,200 word processor, the new generation of machine developed by the National Enterprise Board-controlled Nexos electronic office equipment company is about to be installed in the Ashdown House headquarters of the industry department.

The ministerial interest in the new word processor and reports on its operational capability will clearly be carefully awaited by Nexos, which has just negotiated the sale of 65 of the machines to Commercial Union Assurance.

Cable News, the Atlanta-based cable TV company, has prepared a video special to be screened at the end of the world. Armageddon will be greeted by such musical routines as "God Bless America" and, somewhat inappropriately, "Stars and Stripes Forever". The curtain will come down on the human race to the strains of "Nearer My God To Thee". With a hawk at roost in the White House it pays to be prepared.

Ross Davies

Stock markets

Gilts ahead while equities recoup early losses

It was a quiet day for most sectors of the market yesterday. Leading equities opened easier by a couple of pence, trimmed by the threat of industrial action by the miners over possible pit closures, but recovered by the close. Otherwise, investment buying was again more apparent in special situations. Gilts, however, proved the exception and showed slight gains on the day.

Further consideration of the banking figures released on Tuesday was thought by some to be behind these moves, but gilts dealers attributed the advance to thin conditions. Longs opened at previous night's levels to firm by £¼ to £½ during the day and look to move quietly ahead. Shorts also advanced during the day to close firmer by £⅛ to £¼, with reports of some active investment buying. But the new tap was under-subscribed.

Leading equities reported a very quiet day with thin conditions for both buying and selling. The threat of the miners' action and the closure of Talbot's Linwood factory saw the market open cautiously with some selling early on. Some blue chips dipped such as Glaxo down from 262p to 258p Later it recovered to 264p. ICI cost 2p to 262p, Beechams added 2p to 180p and Bowater dropped 1p to 195p. Imperial Group, which reports today, was a penny off at 79½p. Dowty, awaiting half-time results today, went down 8p to 194p. Hawker Siddeley dropped 4p to 274p.

There was little interest in Dunlop after recent Swiss buying and the shares, which were up 1p to 64p at one time dropped back to 63p.

The *FT* Index reflected the cautious start to the day with a fall of 3 points in the morning to 482.5. It later picked up to close at 486.3, a rise of 0.8 on the day.

A similar story applied to electricals where again thin conditions prevailed. The leaders in the sector ended the day firmer. GEC added 3p to 635p, Hoover, expecting results shortly, was unchanged at 337p and Eurotherm, with Scottish expansion plans, stayed at 125p. Racal added a 1p to 338p.

Takeover favourite Reardon Smith "A" leapt 16p to 138p yesterday, after 144p, a rise of 25p this account. The board have denied any takeover approaches but the market is talking of a 200p a share bid from the Hongkong shipping magnate C. Y. Tung. One London broker spoke of assets in the region of 400p a share.

Jobbers reported firm undertones in a steady engineering market. Again the second-liners were the more buoyant with most stocks closing much firmer on the day. Metal Box was unchanged at 180p,GKN, despite dipping 3p to 143p in the day, ended at 146p. P. Brotherhood lost 1p to 160p but Chubb, after recent newspaper comments, added a further 1p to 91p. Vickers rose a 1p to 149p and Beatson Clark, on the back of a brokers circular, added 2p to 105p.

A flurry of activity was reported in shipping where Stag Line, still looking for a counter-offer to the latest Turnbull Scott bid, climbed 13p to 433p. Reardon Smith, also on bid speculation and a broker's circular, added 16p firmer at 140p. European Ferries, after their week-long climb, dipped 3p to 161p reflecting profit-taking after Tuesday's gains and news of the Spanish acquisition.

Crouch, after an interim profits setback, fell 13p to 140p. D. Macpherson climbed 4p to 68p and Crest Nicholson rose 3p to 133p following encouraging figures earlier in the week. Westland, after general meeting forecasts, added 6p to 125p. Speculative buying lifted G. W. Sparrow 5p to 73p and added 6p to Lister at 40p. Fading bid hopes took 5p from I. Barget at 175p.

Also on the bid front, Harrison & Crosfield's approach boosted London Sumatra 35p to 378p. Harrison dropped £¼ to £7¾. This sparked off speculative demand for Warren, up 10p at 218p, while Malakoff put on 10p to 124p. News of Escal's share stake lifted David Dixon 2p to 96p.

Shares were suspended at 365p in Meekatharr, the Australian coal mining group, awaiting independent survey results.

Oils continued their downward move and jobbers reported a day in the doldrums. Leaders like BP down 2p at 410p, Shell down 6p at 418p, Ultramar, down 1p to 485p led the way. Tricentrol fell back 6p to 314p and Burmah dropped 3p to 183p. It is still the second-liners which are atracting most attention. One bright spark came from the new placing of Oil and Gas Products. Opening at 42p, the shares closed 1p up and the partly-placed shares, doubled in price to 8½p.

But exploration issues saw Double Eagle 45p higher at 255p, and Warrior up 40p to 260p on annual reports published yesterday.

Banks sa wmovements after several days of inactivity. Barclays, rose 7p to 405p and Midland was up 7p to 333p, while Lloyds put on 4p to 335p.

Insurances recouped opening falls, but still closed a little easier. Jobbers described difficult trading with shortages of stock and mainly selective buying. Commercial Union, on press reports, tumbled 1p to 152p, General Accident was down 2p to 298p but Royal added 3p to 363p.

Properties showed a mixed market with losses confined to a few pence. Langanvale added 3½p to 35p on acquisition news, otherwise Stock Conv dropped 5p to 340p, MEPC next lower, 2p at 235p and Land Secs was unchanged at 398p.

Consolidated Gold led the way down in gold and mining finance shares with a fall of 13p to 423p. But RTZ rose 5p to 383p. Dealers are still looking to Wall Street for further reduction in the United States prime rate after Morgan Guaranty's cut earlier in the week. The gold price, after rises overnight, fell back $14 to close at $500.5. The heavyweight golds followed the trend with Anglo American Gold down 3¼ to 38⅜, and W. Driefontein dropped 1p to 29 9/16.

Fans of nut and bolt distributor Walker & Staff Holdings have chased the price up to 25p recently. Observers reckon that having set up five branches in the Home Counties the group is preparing to sell off a London freehold in the books at £93,000, valued two years ago at £330,000, and reckoned now to be worth £500,000.

Equity turnover on February 10 was £128.875m (18,194 bargains). Active stocks yesterday, according to the Exchange Telegraph, were GEC, Shell, ICI, Boots, Bowater, Barclays, Tricentrol, Imperial Group, Turner & Newall, Guinness Peat, BP, Associated Dairies, Beecham, BAT and BTR.

Traded options: Dealers reported total contracts of 825. GEC attracted 151, Racal took 124, Shell attracted 23, P & O 17, Lonrho 41 and Land Secs took 37.

Traditional options: Dealers reported very quiet conditions with calls in Gold Mines, ICL, Charterhall, Endeavour Oil, Turner & Newall, First National Finance and Johnson & Firth Brown and Hampton Trust.

Puts were arranged in Thorn and Grootvlei Mines.

Latest results

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Anglo-Amer Secs (F)	—(—)	4.79(4.7)	5.26(5.12)	3.4(3.0)	—	4.7(4.7)
Christy Bros (I)†	2.49(4.3)	0.05*(0.12*)	2.7*(6.0*)	—(—)	—	—(—)
F. Copson (I)	2.82(3.12)	0.058(0.1)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(1.2)
Martin Ford (F)	6.42(7.21)	0.24(1.33)	1.84(4.13)	0.6(1.3)	30/4	1.3(2.6)
Moorside Tst (F)	—(—)	1.2(0.93)	7.17(6.12)	5(4.4)	—	7(6)
Press Tools (I)	1.4(1.41)	0.14(0.2)	—(—)	0.8(0.95)	—	—(2.7)
Scot & Merc Inv (F)‡	—(—)	0.5(0.39)	5.98(5.26)	5.3(4.2)	2/4	5.35(5.2)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. *Loss; †Comparative figures are for nine months; ‡Latest figures are for six months compared with one year.

Westland shares jump on news of profits increase

By Michael Clark

Westland Aircraft is beating the recession, despite earlier worries over defence spending cuts.

Lord Aldington, chairman, told the annual meeting yesterday that management accounts for the first three months showed profits in real terms running ahead of those for the corresponding period. The market greeted the news with a 6p rise in the share price to 125p.

Deliveries were also up on last year but were still below previous expectations, while the value of orders received had been boosted by an order for Sea King helicopters received in October.

The group's Ministry of Defence funded research and development had been reduced and was now running below previous levels, although it was expected that this might be increased in the spring. But the Government's defence spending cuts had seriously affected the flow of orders for spare parts, he added. Nevertheless, the company still had a substantial load of product support work for private customers.



Lord Aldington, chairman of Westland Aircraft.

Turning to the helicopter division, Lord Aldington pointed out that it still needed more orders for the Lynx and would still be pressing ahead with the WG 30 after the completion of arrangements with British Airways Helicopters.

Hovercraft production continued apace and further expansion was envisaged, but the Western Technologies division had suffered a setback owing to the fall-off in house building activities.

On a sombre note he said that Westland had still not reached agreement with the Italian government over the next stage of the EH 101 project which would threaten its ability to capture a substantial share of the market, and in turn, pass the ultimate cost to the Government.

Slight improvement at Yorkshire Bank

By Roman Eisenstein
Banking Correspondent

Yorkshire Bank, the northern bank owned by the other clearers, yesterday reported a slight profits improvement for 1980. The group pretax profit has edged up from £19.13m to £19.76m and the improvement after tax is from £11.6m to £12.3m.

The figures are to some extent distorted by the contribution from the finance and leasing subsidiaries. At the pretax level the profits of Yorkshire Bank Finance fell from £667,000 to only £257,000, while operating losses of the leasing subsidiary rose from £166,000 to £470,000.

However, the after-tax surplus on leasing was over £2m as against a loss of some £250,000 last year. This was a principal reason for the improvement of the group's net profits. Yorkshire Bank, whose chairman is Mr J. P. R. Glynn, says that prospects on the leasing business are good.

Profits on current cost accounting, the first ones for a bank to be given a "true and fair" approval by its auditors, are up from £1.6m to £1.95m.

As with the leading clearing banks, Yorkshire has seen its customers switching some of their deposits from non-interest bearing current accounts to deposit accounts. While current account deposits rose by only 4 per cent, the growth of deposit accounts kept pace with inflation and these grew by 18 per cent. The group's balance sheet total rose by 17 per cent, roughly in line with inflation.

Mr J. P. R. Glynn, chairman of Yorkshire Bank.

Mr Graham Sunderland, the general manager, points out that the longer term saving accounts have increased in value by 40 per cent. Advances have been affected by the reluctance of borrowers to pay the prevailing high interest rates and advances rose by only 17.5 per cent compared with a rise of 25.5 per cent last year.

The provision for bad debts has remained almost static during the year. Specific provisions are barely changed at £1.59m while general provisions are slightly up from £4.36m to £4.79m.

Mr Sunderland says that the bank is taking an "indulgent" attitude to personal borrowers who cannot meet their debt obligations. It is also taking support measures for several of its business customers.

Report boosts Warrior

By Catherine Gunn

Shares of Canadian energy exploration companies Double Eagle and Warrior Resources rose steeply in London yesterday following an encouraging report on exploration activity from Warrior Resources.

The two groups are operating together in Oklahoma and New Mexico, on low-risk projects unlike their suspended wildcat well in Alaska, whose troubles lie behind last year's collapse in both their share prices.

Warrior Resources rose 4[illegible] to 260p in London yesterday and in Canada was trading [illegible] C$7.50, 50 cents higher than the previous day. Double Eagle gained 45p to 255p here and C$1.1 to C$7.35 in Canada. [illegible] one point last year, Double Eagles's "high" was 81[illegible] while Warrior reached 410p [illegible] London, before news that the Alaskan well had been suspended percolated through. N[illegible] seismic work is being carried out there now in hope of find yet.

Double Eagle's chairman, [illegible] Kingsford Healey, said yesterday that the company should show a positive cash-flow from its Oklahoma ventures very soon. It has spent just o[illegible] C$6m (£2.14m) in Alaska so f[illegible] about 62.5 per cent of the total cost of that venture.

Warrior owns 24.3 per cent of Double Eagle and has enjoyed a positive cash-flow from its Texan venture for a year now. Double Eagle also hopes to start exploration in Te[illegible] shortly.

Briefly

Bett Brothers: Chairman considers that there are reasonable prospects of maintaining profits and turnover at acceptable levels, and all board's energies will be directed towards these ends.

Brent Chemicals International confirms completion of acquisition of Uresco Inc details of which were announced on January 20.

Kwik-Fit (Tyres and Exhausts) Holdings announces that 190,000 new ordinary shares have been issued to the vendor of Davenport Garage in satisfaction of balance of consideration for Davenport which was acquired in March, 1980. A further 193,000 shares have been issued on conversion of loan stock.

Barrow Hepburn Group's sale of 40 per cent holding in Colyer Watson Holdings (a New Zealand Co) to Strong and Fisher (Holdings) has been completed following successful defence of action by a third party to frustrate the agreement. Consideration of £700,000 has been received.

Arden and Cobden Hotels: Profit after tax for year to December 27 £144,500 (£133,000). Turnover £1.2m (£1.08m). Dividend 5.5p net (4.75p). Eps 2.7p (17.7p).

Martin Ford: With sales, including VAT, down from £7.21m to £6.42m, Martin Ford's pretax profits dropped from £1.33m to £244,000 in the year to November 29, 1980. The total dividend is being halved to 1.85p gross. But the board reports that indications point towards an improvement in the current year's results.

Cultus Pacific, the Australian mineral exploration company, has set up a wholly-owned British subsidiary, Culpac UK, to look at oil and gas exploration in Europe. Cultus is now receiving income from the United States. Mr Christopher Rowe, the company's chairman, says in his annual report.

Scottish & Mercantile Investment: Pretax profits for half year to Sept 30, 1980, £509,000 (compared with £395,000 for 12 months to March 31, 1980). Dividend, 7.64p gross (7.42p gross for one year). **Anglo-American Securities Corporation:** Net revenue before tax for year to Jan 15, 1981, £4.79m (£4.7m). Total dividend 6.78p gross (6.77p gross, including special dividend of 0.77p).

Christy optimistic despite loss

By Peter Wilson-Smith

Christy Brothers, the Chelmsford-based contracting and engineering group, had pretax losses of £54,000 on sales of £2.49m in the six months to June 30. The net loss was £78,000 after redundancy and other charges. The shares were unchanged at 24p.

Mr James Dyer, who was appointed chairman last summer after stockbrokers Simon & Coates gained control of Christy with a 30p-a-share cash bid, said he expected the group to show a pre-tax profit in the second half to June 30.

Christy has changed its year end so comparison is difficult, but in the nine months to December 31, 1979, it lost £119,000 pretax and £157,000 in the ensuing six months.

In the latest six months there was an £88,000 trading profit before interest despite poor sales in the manufacturing side of the business and further losses on contracts taken at low margins. However, interest charges showed an underlying rise to £142,000.

Since last June, Mr Dyer said there had been considerable cost savings, including a cut in the workforce from 321 to 203 and stock reductions.

On the contracting side, where Christy's main problems have occurred in its chequered past, the group has recently won two contracts for animal feed plants worth about £750,000 each and Mr Dyer said the margins were reasonable.

Because the group shows a debit to distributable reserves it has been unable to pay dividends on the cumulative preference shares under company law.

New-look Atcost moves ahead

The privately-owned Atcost Holdings group, which makes steel and concrete structures for construction projects, increased its profits before tax from £557,000 to £766,000 in the year to September 30, in spite of the problems besetting the industry.

The improvement follows a switch in the group's business mix from providing most of its structures for agricultural buildings to concentrating much more upon special projects and nursery units. Special structures are expected to provide two-fifths of group turnover this year, though total sales are not expected to rise much from 1979-80's £19.6m turnover.

Last year's good performance also reflected a strong order book. Orders have now slipped in real terms although they are similar in sterling terms. Mr Peter Down, the chairman, said yesterday that this is likely to be a year of consolidation following last year's acquisition, notably that of steel frames builder Hillspan.

Borrowings have risen from the year-end net figure of £1.66m, but part of the £400,000 proceeds on the sale of a factory site in Kent will go towards reducing that. Atcost also has a contract to build on the site for the new owner.

Fresh moves likely at Howard Machinery

By Rosemary Unsworth

Mr Stanley Mann, chairman of American Diamond Industries, which staged a teatime raid on Howard Machinery last Friday, picking up 14.9 per cent, is coming to London this weekend "on business".

Mr Mann said yesterday that there would definitely be further developments in connexion with the stake in the troubled agricultural machinery group, but Mr C. F. Alsop, Howard's chief executive, said that he had had no contact with Mr Mann since the notification of the purchase.

Diamond Industries, a private company, operates 10 home oil heating companies in Delaware as well as a petrol trading company and two barge terminals. Mr Mann, who is 59, is also treasurer and a director of Oxford First Securities, a quoted financial services company, as well as chairman of the Delaware Valley Trade zone.

Diamond holds a near 10 per cent stake in Bache Group, the Wall Street brokers, acquired after the Hunt Brothers pulled out following their silver dealings disaster.

Meekatharra in row over estimates

By Michael Clark

A row appeared to be growing yesterday between the Australian government and Meekatharra Minerals, a coal exploration company based in Perth.

The dispute concerns estimates of coal production in the Arckiringa Basin of South Australia, after complaints by the Minister of Mines and Energy for South Australia, Mr Roger Goldsworthy. He has asked for a meeting between the company's consulting mining engineers and consulting geologists and the director general of the Department of Mines and Energy to discuss the 2,400m tons of coal originally estimated by Meekatharra.

Mr Don O'Callaghan, chairman of Meekatharra, upon hearing the news applied to the Perth Stock Exchange for immediate suspension of the shares at A$7.30 (375p) just before dealings resumed on the Sydney Stock Exchange on Tuesday evening.

Mr O'Callaghan immediately issued a statement to shareholders stating: "We are advised that yesterday afternoon the minister made a statement to the House of Assembly of the South Australian Parliament with regard to this.

"As this company and its consultants have had no opportunity to respond to the minister's letter prior to his statement to Parliament, the board of directors hat determined that it would be in the best interests of the shareholders to request an immediate suspension of trading in the company's shares until such time as the company can ensure a properly informed market."

The shares are quoted in the London market and dealers were optimistic last night that the suspension would last only a week until independent surveyors were able to make a report.

Blackman to stop trading

By Our Financial Staff

Clothing manufacturer Blackman & Conrad is to cease trading and is putting its active subsidiary into voluntary liquidation. The shares were suspended at 6p on February 5, pending an announcement, giving the company a market capitalization of £291,000.

In December, the company reported a first-half loss to July 31 of £90,000 on greatly reduced turnover. Mr David Alderman, the chairman and managing director, said then that trading conditions showed no sign of improvement. No dividends have been paid since 1977.

No one at the company was available for comment last night. Merchant bank Charterhouse Japhet is among its creditors, with about £60,000 of a previously much larger debt still outstanding.

The company makes children's and ladies' wear and has been suffering increasingly from poor demand thanks to stiff competition from cheap imports of clothing.

Mr Chang buys more Boustead

Hendon Green, the Hongk[illegible] nominee company which [illegible] vealed a 6.53 per cent stake [illegible] overseas trader and plantati[illegible] group Boustead last month, n[illegible] holds 7.59 per cent of B[illegible] stead's equity. Hendon Green [illegible] a private investment veh[illegible] for a Malay-Chinese busin[illegible] man called Mr Chang. [illegible] Chang has told the group t[illegible] he is building up a block [illegible] shares in the group for inv[illegible] ment purposes.

Mr Michael Roper-Caldbe[illegible] Boustead's deputy chairm[illegible] said yesterday that Mr Ch[illegible] is known to the group's ch[illegible] man, Mr Alan Charlton, wh[illegible] based in Singapore. Mr Ro[illegible] Caldbeck said the group is [illegible] unduly concerned about [illegible] *Chang's increasing stake* a[illegible] knows of no links between [illegible] and other Far Eastern hol[illegible] of Boustead shares. Bous[illegible] shares were unchanged at [illegible] yesterday.

Gold Eurobond tumbles

The first ever Eurobond issue denominated in gold tumbled in the market yesterday as the spot price for gold fell below $500 an ounce. The 100,000-ounce 15-year issue was priced at par when dealings began on Tuesday. The coupon was initially 3.25 per cent and the subscription price was based on the London afternoon fixing of $519.50 an ounce. In trading yesterday the issue was quoted at $97.50, reflecting a 3.56 per cent decline in gold bullion to $501 an ounce.

The arrangements for the issue provide that a trustee, Continental Illinois Bank & Trust Company will always hold enough gold bullion, gold futures contracts or certified claims on gold to ensure payment of interest and principal.

Escal has 5.9pc of David Dixon

David Dixon & Son Holdings, the Yorkshire hosiery and cloth *manufacturer, said that it* had no idea what Escal (Commodities) intended to do with its 5.9 per cent stake, which it has acquired in stages during the last month.

The purchase of the shares, which yesterday gained 2p to 96p, makes Escal the third largest shareholder in the group. Mr Harry Turpin, chairman and chief executive, is the major shareholder with 12 per cent of the ordinary shares. However, including his preference shares and those shares held by his friends, his control is more than 20 per cent of the equity. Sun Alliance also has a 7.7 per cent holding.

Gulliver stake in Argyll Foods rises

On February 10, Gulliver Foods exercised its option to acquire 1.69m fully paid ordinary shares of Argyll Foods from certain members of the Edwards family under a 1978 agreement. Of these shares, 1.5m have been placed at about 115p a share and 193,745 shares, have been *retained by Gulliver.* As a result, the shareholding of Gulliver and its associates in Argyll has risen to 8.85m ordinaries (21.1 per cent).

Receivers for Geo White (Gosport)

Mr Guy Parsons and Mr Richard Agutter, partners in chartered accountants Peat, Marwick, Mitchell Co, have been appointed joint receivers and managers of George White (Gosport), who manufacture *children's clothing.*

The company, which employs about 400 people, operates from Gosport, Hampshire. Its customers are a number of the large retail chains.

The joint receivers are allowing the company to trade with a view to selling the business as a going concern.

Tax clearance hopes at G R Dawes Hldgs

The liquidators of G. R. Dawes Holdings report that during 1980 the long-outstanding tax matters have progressed towards eventual clearance and it is hoped that this process can be completed this year. A start was made on the disposal of property interests. Until the extent of the tax liabilities in general has been agreed, it is not possible to make a further distribution to shareholders of a sum which would justify the costs involved. Meanwhile, available funds continue to be invested and to earn market rates of interest.

Cygnet's 7.5pc stake in Evered

The mystery investor in engineering group Evered, which is subject to a 22p-a-share agreed bid from Francis Industries, turns out to be Cygnet SA of Switzerland. It has bought 7.57 per cent (441,250 shares) in Evered through Investat (Nominees), a Hoare, Govett subsidiary. Hoare, Govett said it did not know whether Cygnet was the ultimate holder of the shares.

Bank Base Rates

ABN Bank	14'
Barclays	14'
BCCI	14'
Consolidated Crdts	14'
C. Hoare & Co ..	*14'
Lloyds Bank	14'
Midland Bank	14'
Nat Westminster ..	14'
Rossminster	14'
TSB	14'
Williams and Glyn's	14'

* 7 day deposit on sums £10,000 and under 11[illegible], [illegible] to £50,000 12[illegible], over £50,000 12[illegible].

Deutsche Babcock cuts dividend

International

Deutsche Babcock, the West German machine-making group, said yesterday it was cutting its dividend for last year to 6 per cent from 16 per cent in 1978-79.

The company indicated that earnings had not dropped from the 1978-79 level of DM40.8m September 30, 1980, to reserves.

The dividend cut means that the payout per DM100 nominal (£8.2m) despite the cut in the payout. A spokesman said the managing board had decided to commit the greater part of earnings for the year ended common share will drop to DM6 from DM16. Babcock also said the preferred share dividend would be cut to DM7 from DM17 the previous fiscal year.

Babcock earlier said its 1979-80 sales rose to DM5,000m, up 13 per cent from the previous year. At that time, the company also indicated that earnings would be the best in several years.

Citicorp to finance mine

Citicorp International Group has been mandated to raise about $100m (£42.7m) to finance the initial stage of the Papua New Guinea OK Tedi gold and copper mining project, banking sources in Hongkong said.

The 12-year credit will carry interest at 0.5 per cent above London interbank offered rates for part of its duration, rising to just under 1 per cent for the remainder, the sources said.

The non-sovereign credit is being raised by the three companies involved in the project, BHP Co of Australia, which has a 30 per cent stake, Amoco Minerals of the United States (30 per cent) and Kupferexploration of West Germany (20 per cent), the sources said.

The government of Papua New Guinea, which holds the remaining 20 per cent, said in December it would raise a $70m credit for the project around the middle of this year.

Cadbury Schweppes

An increase of more than half in pretax profits has been achieved by Cadbury Schweppes (South Africa). They rose from R4.8m to R7.4m (£3.7m). Turnover went up from R36.6m to R50.59m. The dividend is increased from 23 cents to 36 cents for the year.

The chairman, Mr C. Cilliers, says that earnings a share, at 96.4 cents, were 47 per cent higher than last year. Both the drinks and confectionery sections of the business had earned higher profits.

Sceptre spending plans

Sceptre Resources said yesterday that it planned capital spending for 1981 of C$32m (£11.5m). Additionally, the company will be administering about C$38m.

In Canada, Sceptre plans to spend C$10m and is also the operator of a joint venture with the C$14.1m. Sceptre 1980-81 exploration programme. Additionally, Sceptre operates a joint venture with the Sceptre Saskatchewan 80 programme which has a balance of C$1.75m to be spent this year. About 100 gross wells are invisaged, along with spending on production facilities and land acquisition programmes.

Fluor Corporation

Fluor Corporation expects earnings per share for the year to October 31, 1981, to be 15 to 20 per cent above the $2.73 (£1.16) made in 1980.

The statement was made by Mr J. Robert Fluor, chairman, at a meeting attended by some 80 financial analysts in California on Monday.

Barget raising £400,000

By Our Financial Staff

Essex-based furniture makers Barget are raising £400,000 from a placing of 250,000 shares with institutions at 160p, to pay off a loan from the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation.

Discussions have been taking place between Barget directors and ICFC on the possible renegotiation of a £216,000 loan which was secured by a first charge on Barget's factory at Witham.

The directors say that it is in the shareholders' best interests to remove this and have now concluded that the best way of resolving the position would be to raise new capital through a placing.

Business appointments

Mr J. M. Magowan named Commercial Union chief

Mr J. M. Magowan has been made chairman of Commercial Union Assurance.

Mr Robert Henderson has joined British Airways board in a non-executive capacity.

Mr Michael H. Butler is the new director-general of finance of the National Coal Board. He has been deputy director-general of finance and treasurer of the board since January, 1978.

Mr Geoffrey Richardson becomes finance director of Hamworthy Engineering. Mr Bruce Chapman, general manager of the transmissions division, has also joined the board.

Sir David Checketts, a member of the executive staff of The British Electric Traction Company, has been made a director of The Birmingham & District Investment Trust.

Mr L. A. Birt is now managing director of Bowthorpe Microsystems.

Mr Peter J. Dunkerley has been made managing director of Thomas Jourdan.

Mr Derek S. Todd has become divisional managing director of Showerings, Vine Products & Whiteways.

Mr Roy Forman has been named marketing director of Private Patients Plan.

Mr A. D. Patterson has been made sales director of Software Sciences defence division.

Mr Michael J. C. Ward is the new financial director of Harrison & Sons (High Wycombe).

The Over-the-Counter Market

1980/81 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P[illegible]
75	39	Airsprung Group	63	—	6.7	10.6	[illegible]
44	21	Armitage & Rhodes	41	−1	1.4	3.4	1[illegible]
192	92½	Bardon Hill	190	—	9.7	5.1	[illegible]
98	88	Deborah Services	95	—	5.5	5.8	[illegible]
126	88	Frank Horsell	109	—	6.4	5.9	[illegible]
110	52	Frederick Parker	52	—	11.0	21.2	[illegible]
110	74	George Blair	74	—	3.1	4.2	
110	59	Jackson Group	107	—	6.9	6.4	[illegible]
124	103	James Burrough	120	—	7.9	6.6	[illegible]
334	244	Robert Jenkins	330	—	31.3	9.5	
53	50	Scruttons "A"	53	—	5.3	10.0	[illegible]
224	215	Torday Limited	216	—	15.1	7.0	[illegible]
23	10	Twinlock Ord	12½	—	—	—	
90	69	Twinlock 15% ULS	70	−2	15.0	21.4	
56	35	Unilock Holdings	38	—	3.0	7.9	
103	81	Walter Alexander	100xd	—	5.7	5.7	[illegible]
262	181	W. S. Yeates	262	+2	12.1	4.6	[illegible]

MARKET REPORTS

Commodities

[illegible]PPER was steady.—Afternoon.—[illegible]sh wire bars, £767-68 a metric ton; [illegible] months, £789-90. Sales, 4 800. [illegible] cathodes, £767-69; three months, [illegible]. Sales, 100 tons. Morning.—[illegible] wire bars, £765-66.50; three [illegible]nths, £791-91.50. Settlement, [illegible]. Sales, 11,550 tons (mainly [illegible]). Cash cathodes, £770-71; [illegible] months, £790-92. Settlement, [illegible]. Sales, 1,750 tons (mainly carries).

[illegible] was steady.—Afternoon.—Standard cash, £5,830-60 a tonne; three [illegible]nths, £5,945-60. Sales, 208 tonnes. [illegible] grade, cash, £5,850-60; three [illegible]nths, £5,965-[illegible]. Sales, nil tonnes. [illegible]rning.—Standard cash, £5,850-60; [illegible] months, £5,975-6,000. Settlement, £5,860. Sales, 655 tonnes (mainly carries). High grade, cash, [illegible]50-60; three months, £5,975-[illegible]00. Settlement, £5,860. Sales, nil [illegible]. Singapore tin ex-works, [illegible]57.51 a picul.

[illegible]AD was steady.—Afternoon.—Cash, [illegible] per tonne; three months, [illegible]. Sales, 2,100 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £284-85.50; three months, [illegible]-97.50. Settlement, £284.50. [illegible] 7,850 tonnes (mainly carries).

[illegible]C was barely steady.—Afternoon.—[illegible], £311-12 per tonne; three months, [illegible]2.50-23.50. Sales, 2,225 tonnes (mainly carries). Morning.—Cash, [illegible]1.50-12.50; three months, £323-[illegible]50. Settlement, £312.50. Sales, [illegible]50 tonnes (mainly carries).

[illegible]ATINUM was at £208.75 ($488.00) [illegible] ounce.

[illegible]VER was steady.—Bullion market [illegible] levels).—Spot, 571.15p per [illegible] ounce (United States cents [illegible]valent, 1,334.80); three months, [illegible] (1,380.80c); six months, [illegible] (1,443.50c); one year [illegible] (1,557.40c). London Metal [illegible]change.—Afternoon.—Cash, [illegible]; three months, 587-88p. Sales, [illegible] lots of 10,000 troy ounces each. [illegible]rning.—Cash, 568.5-69.5p; three [illegible]nths, 586.5-87.5p. Settlement, [illegible]. Sales, 40 lots.

[illegible]UMINIUM was firmer.—Afternoon.—Cash, £627.50-28.50 per tonne; [illegible] months, £642.50-43.50. Sales, [illegible]0 tonnes. Morning.—Cash, £621-[illegible]; three months, £636-37. Settlement, [illegible]. Sales, 2,525 tonnes.

[illegible]CKEL was steady.—Afternoon.—[illegible] £2,700-10 per tonne; three [illegible]nths, £2,680-85. Sales, 114 tonnes. [illegible]rning.—Cash, £2,705-15; three [illegible]nths, £2,685-90. Settlement, £2,715. [illegible] 162 tonnes (mainly carries).

[illegible]BBER was uncertain (pence per [illegible]).—March, 56.40-57.00; April, [illegible]-58.00; April-June, 58.90-59.00; [illegible]-Sept, 62.10-62.20; Oct-Dec, [illegible]; Jan-March, 68.10-69.20; [illegible]-June, 71.10-71.20; July-Sept, [illegible]-73.20; Oct-Dec, 77.20-77.30. [illegible] 52 lots at five tonnes. 279 at [illegible] tonnes.

[illegible]BBER PHYSICALS were quiet. Spot [illegible]-57.00; Cifs March 60.50-61.25; [illegible] 61.00-61.50.

[illegible]FFEE.—ROBUSTAS (£ per tonne): [illegible]ch, 980-[illegible]; May, 1,007-1,010; [illegible] 1,019-1,020; Sept, 1,036-1,0[illegible]; [illegible] 1,042-1,045; Jan, 1,043-1,060; [illegible]ch, 1,040-1,070. Sales: 1,771 lots [illegible]uding 7 options.

[illegible]ABICA (officials at 1.645): Feb, [illegible]0-146.00; April, 142.00-144.00; [illegible] 142.00-144.50; Aug, 144.00-[illegible]; Oct, 141.00-147.00; Dec, [illegible].50-146.50; Feb, 142.50-143.50.

[illegible]COA was about steady. (£ per [illegible]ric ton).—March, 841-842; May, [illegible]872; July, 897-898; Sept, [illegible]; Dec, 919-930; March, 973-974; [illegible] 993-994. Sales, 2,522 lots.

[illegible]GAR.—The London daily price of [illegible]aws" was £5 higher at £270.00; "whites" price was £2 higher [illegible] £300.00. Futures were barely steady [illegible] per tonne): March, 273.75-76.50; [illegible]y, 282.00-82.50; Aug, 277.00-[illegible]00; Oct, 269.50-71.50; Jan, 235.00-[illegible]00; March, 248.00-51.00; May [illegible]00-70.50. ISA prices (Feb 10): [illegible] 25.18c; 15-day average 25.26c.

[illegible]YABEAN MEAL was steady (£ per [illegible]ne).—Feb, 118.00-24.00; April, [illegible]2.20-22.50; June, 127.10-27.10; [illegible], 127.60-29.00; Oct, 128.00-28.80; [illegible]c, 128.50-31.50; Feb, 129.00-34.00. [illegible]les 76 lots.

[illegible]OOL (cents per kilo). NZ crossbreds [illegible] 2 contract was quiet: March, 347-[illegible]0; May, 350-353; Aug, 367-368; [illegible], 372-377; Dec, 376-379; Jan, [illegible]-382; March, 382-385; May, 385-[illegible]; Aug, 388-395. Sales 24 lots.

[illegible]AIN (The Baltic) — WHEAT.—Canadian western red spring No 1, [illegible] per cent was unquoted. US dark northern spring No 2, 14 per cent, March, £110 trans-shipment east coast. US hard winter, 13½ per cent, March, £105.75; April, £104.50 trans-shipment east coast. EEC was unquoted. English feed fob, March, £112.50 to £122.75. MAIZE: US French, Feb, £125.00 trans-shipment east coast. S African yellow, March April, £87.50.

BARLEY: English feed fob, Feb, £100, March, £101; April, £102.50; May, £105.50 east coast. (All per tonne cif UK unless stated).

London Grain Futures Market (Gafta). EEC origin.—BARLEY was slightly easier: March, £96.55; May, £99.05; Sept, £93.65; Nov, £97.45; Jan, £101.40. Sales: 159 lots. WHEAT was irregular: March, £107.00; May, £110.85; July, £114.80; Sept, £98.40; Nov, £102.70; Jan, £106.60. Sales: 345 lots.

Home-Grown Cereals Authority.—Location ex-farm spot prices:

	Other milling WHEAT	Feed WHEAT	Feed BARLEY
S Eastern	—	£105.40	—
E Midlands	—	£104.70	£93.10
N East	—	£109.00	£95.80
Scotland	—	—	£98.40

MEAT COMMISSION.—Average fatstock prices at representative markets on Feb 11. GB: cattle, 84.87p per kg lw (+0.63); UK: sheep, 164.51p per kg est d c w (+14.89); GB: pigs, 67.52p per kg lw (+1.28). England and Wales: Cattle numbers up 1.4 per cent, average price 85.29p (+0.69); sheep numbers down 0.5 per cent, average price 165.50p (+16.06); pig numbers down 7.5 per cent, average price 67.52p (+1.28). Scotland: Cattle numbers up 2.7 per cent, average price 83.[illegible]p (+0.31); Sheep numbers up 20.7 per cent, average price 160.15p (+15.87).

POTATOES (Gafta).—April, £56.90; Nov, £55. Sales 63 (all of 40 tonnes each).

EGGS.—The London Egg Exchange: Home-produced: Sizes 1 and 2 remain in surplus while other sizes continue to be about in balance. Imported: EEC values are the same as last week.

Home-produced market prices (in £ per 120, based on trading packer/first-hand).

Brown	Wed Thurs-Fri	Mon Tues
1's	5.00 to 5.10	4.80 to 5.10
2's	4.40 to 4.85	4.50 to 4.60
3's	4.70 to 4.60	4.10 to 4.60
4's	4.15 to 4.45	4.00 to 4.25
White		
1's	5.00 to 5.10	4.80 to 5.00
2's	4.50 to 4.65	4.30 to 4.60
3's	4.20 to 4.40	4.10 to 4.30
4's	4.10 to 4.25	3.95 to 4.20
5's	3.40 to 4.10	3.70 to 4.10
6's	3.70 to 3.90	3.70 to 3.90
7's	3.00 to 3.10	3.00 to 3.10

Imported prices (in £)

	Current arrivals
Dutch white 6's	3.70
7's	3.10

All prices quoted are for bulk delivery in Keyes trays. The above range is a guide to general market conditions and is dependent upon location, quantity and whether delivered or not.

EEC tightens sugar export regulations

The EEC Commission has introduced a new rule to tighten control of sugar exports falling outside community "a" and "b" production quotas, Commission sources said in Brussels yesterday.

The export licences for "c" sugar, which must be sold outside the EEC without refunds or levies, allowed a 5 per cent variation *on quantities sold.* Under the new regulation extra sugar sold within this margin will attract levies or refunds.

Eurosyndicat

The Eurosyndicat index on European share prices was put provisionally at 148.76 on February 10 against 146.23 a week earlier.

Discount market

Credit flows proved adequate and no intervention was required of the Bank of England yesterday.

Rates were rather uneven in the morning. Although 13½ per cent was heard for secured money at a time when Interbank was around 14½ per cent, rates soon closed ranks around 13½ per cent as it became clear that a comfortable day was in prospect.

Foreign exchange report

The dollar continued to make a firm showing on foreign exchanges yesterday although business was at a fairly low level ahead of tomorrow's New York holiday. However, sterling closed five points up against the dollar at 2.3375. The prospect of a 14 per cent MLR at least until the March 10 budget continued to bolster the pound. On the Continent, the effective exchange rate index closing unchanged at 104.2, after 104.1 at noon.

Most of the day's activity was in the dollar/mark. The Bundesbank was again operating in the market as firmer eurodollar rates and worries about the West German economy dragged the mark down. More than $14m were sold by the Bundesbank at the Frankfurt fixing.

The mark finished at 2.1477 to the dollar, compared with 2.1507 last night and a low on the day of around 2.1570. Swiss Francs slipped from 1.9500 to 1.9510, and French Francs declined from 4.9340 to 4.9520.

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) 11 February	Market rates (close) 11 February	1 month	3 months
New York	$2.3320-3390	$2.3370-3380	0.50-0.60c disc	2.25-2.35c disc
Montreal	$2.7930-7980	$2.7955-7965	0.75-0.85c disc	2.85-3.00c disc
Amsterdam	5.43-47fl	5.44½-45½fl	2½-1½c prem	5-4c prem
Brussels	80.40-80f	80.55-65f	15-5c prem	35-5c prem
Copenhagen	15.38-44k	15.42½-43½k	10ore prem-125ore d	270-455ore disc
Dublin	1.3420-3500p	1.3480-90p	5p prem-10p disc	15-35p disc
Frankfurt	5.01-04m	5.02-03m	2¼-1¼pf prem	4½-3½pf prem
Lisbon	130.90-131.50e	131.20-40e	87c prem-33c disc	112c prem-130c d
Madrid	199.10-75p	199.00-70p	05c prem-50c disc	187-267c disc
Milan	2373-78lr	2375½-77½lr	6-8lr disc	27½-30½lr disc
Oslo	12.65-71k	12.69-70k	165-05ore prem	245-70ore prem
Paris	11.55½-59½f	11.57¼-58¼f	4-3c prem	7½-6½c prem
Stockholm	10.72-77k	10.73½-74½k	305-390ore prem	1350-1450ore prem
Tokyo	472-80y	478½-77½y	257-195y prem	580-510y prem
Vienna	35.50-65sch	35.58-63sch	14-12gro prem	34-28gro prem
Zurich	4.54½-55½f	4.56½-57½f	3¼-2¼c prem	7½-6½c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was unchanged at 104.2%.

Other Markets

Australia	1.9950-2.0100
Bahrein	0.8795-0.8825
Finland	9.4230-9.4630
Greece	116.90-118.90
Hongkong	12.3280-12.3680
Iran	Not available
Kuwait	0.6365-0.6395
Malaysia	5.2230-5.2530
Mexico	54.15-55.65
New Zealand	2.4590-2.4890
Saudi Arabia	7.7920-7.8220
Singapore	4.8375-4.8675
South Africa	1.7820-1.7990

Indices

	Bank of England Index	Morgan Guaranty Changes %
Sterling	104.2	−23.0
US dollar	99.4	−4.7
Canadian dollar	84.8	−19.5
Schilling	113.7	+20.7
Belgian franc	107.9	+9.8
Danish kroner	89.6	−10.1
Deutsche mark	117.7	+37.0
Swiss franc	132.7	+72.8
Guilder	112.3	+15.8
French franc	86.7	−8.2
Lira	61.5	−53.4
Yen	149.4	+44.8

Based on trade weighted changes from Washington agreement December, 1971. (Bank of England Index 100).

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	1.7315-1.7330
† Canada	1.1963-1.966
Netherlands	2.3315-2.3335
Belgium	34.43-34.46
Denmark	6.6025-6.6075
West Germany	2.1470-2.1485
Portugal	53.15-53.25
Spain	85.35-85.45
Italy	1015-1017
Norway	5.4325-5.4375
France	4.9510-4.9530
Sweden	4.5925-4.5975
Japan	203.60-203.80
Austria	15.22-15.24
Switzerland	1.9500-1.9520

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8360-0.8363

Money Market Rates

Bank of England MLR 14%
(Last changed 24/11/80)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 14%
Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: High 13½ Low 12½
Week Fixed: 13⅞-13¾

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	12¾	2 months	12½
3 months	12⅝	3 months	12¾

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	13⅛-13	3 months	13⅞
3 months	12⅞-12²⁷⁄₃₂	4 months	13
4 months	12⅞-12¾	6 months	13½
6 months	11⅞-11¹³⁄₁₆		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	15⅛-15	7 months	13⅛-12⅞
2 months	14⅞-14⅝	8 months	13⅛-12⅞
3 months	13¾-13½	9 months	13⅛-12⅞
4 months	13½-13¼	10 months	13⅛-12⅞
5 months	13⅛-13	11 months	13⅛-12⅞
6 months	13⅛-12⅞	12 months	12⅞-12⅝

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	14³⁄₁₆-14¹⁄₁₆	6 months	12²⁵⁄₃₂-12²¹⁄₃₂
3 months	13⁵⁄₁₆-13³⁄₁₆	12 months	12⅝-12½

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	14⅛	3 months	13⅜
7 days	14⅛-14½	6 months	12¾
1 month	14¼	1 year	12⅞

Interbank Market (%)
Overnight: Open 14¼-14⅛ Close 14

1 week	14¾-14¼	6 months	12⅞-12¾
1 month	14⁵⁄₁₆-14³⁄₁₆	9 months	12⅝-12⅝
3 months	13⁷⁄₁₆-13⁵⁄₁₆	12 months	12¹¹⁄₁₆-12⁹⁄₁₆

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 6 months
Finance House Base Rate 15%

EMS Currency Rates

	ECU central rates	currency against ECU	% change from central rate†	% change adjusted†*	divergence limit % plus minus
Belgian franc	39.7897	41.7321	+4.83	+0.68	1.53
Danish krone	7.7236	7.98623	+3.40	−0.80	1.64
German D-mark	2.48208	2.60140	+4.81	+0.61	1.125
French franc	5.84700	5.99859	+2.59	−1.61	1.3557
Dutch guilder	2.74362	2.82150	+2.84	−1.36	1.512
Irish punt	0.668201	0.698043	+4.47	+0.27	1.665
Italian lira	1157.79	1231.32	+6.35	+2.15	4.08

† changes are for the ECU therefore positive change denotes weak currency.
* adjusted for sterling's weight in the ECU, and for the lira's wider divergence limits.
Adjustment calculated by The Times.

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 16⅝-17¼; seven days, 15-15⅝; one month, 16⅞-17⅛; three months, 17⅛-17⅜; six months, 17³⁄₁₆-17⁷⁄₁₆.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $505.00 (an ounce); pm, $501.00 close, $500.50.
Krugerrand (per coin): $515-518 (£220.25-221.75).
Sovereigns (new): $126-128 (£53.75-54.75).

Wall Street

New York, Feb 11.—The stock market closed lower in moderate trading following retail sales news that heightened investor concern about inflation and interest rates.

The commerce Department said retail sales rose two per cent in January and revised December sales to a rise of 0.3 per cent from the 1.3 per cent decline previously reported.

The market has been hoping for a weakening of the economy to ease upward pressure on prices and interest rates.

The D-J industrial average lost 6.14 points to close at 942.49. Declines led advances nine to five as turnover slowed to 37,770,000 shares from 40,820,000 yesterday.

Despite the general weakness, motor and steel stocks firmed. Volume leader General Motors rose 1½ to 49⅛. Ford Motor ⅛ to 20⅛ and Chrysler ⅛ to 5⅛.

General Motors has been one of a few strong stocks recently in a market starving for leadership. GM has been rising since reporting a profitable fourth-quarter. Experts said news of a relaxation of auto safety standards was also helping the trade.

United States Steel tacked on ⅛ to 28. A block of 100,000 steel shares moved at 28. Bethlehem Steel picked up ⅛.

Active Greyhound picked up ⅛ to 16⅛. A block of 198,600 Greyhound shares traded at 16⅛.

Oils were mostly weaker as investors continued to take profits. Active Exxon lost ⅛ to 71⅛. Texaco ⅛ to 39⅛, Standard Oil of California 1⅛ to 90⅛ and Superior oil two to 188⅛.

Johnson and Johnson lost ⅛ to 97⅛. It reported improved fourth-quarter profit but will charge $14m to $16m against first-quarter net to get out of the domestic disposable diaper market.

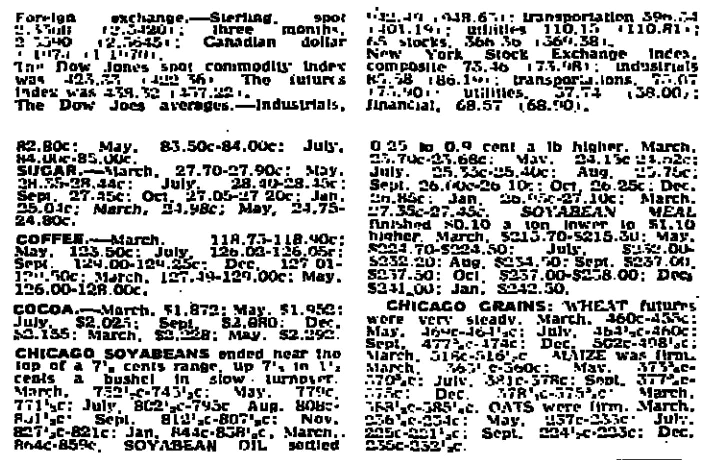
[illegible]

Canadian Prices

[illegible]

* Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution. h Bid. k Market closed. n New issue. p Stock split. s Traded. y Unquoted.

US commodities



New York, Feb 11. SILVER futures at the Comex closed 45 to 50 cents an ounce down on scattered selling promoted by market views that the threat of Soviet intervention in Poland had receded. Feb, 1,306.00c; March, 1,310.00-1,318.00c; April, 1,332.00c; May, 1,345.00-1,352.00c; July, 1,398.50c; Sep, 1,425.00c; Dec, 1,472.00c; Jan, 1,488.00c; March, 1,535.50c; May, 1,572.00c; July, 1,608.50c; Sep, 1,645.00c; Dec, 1,699.00c.

GOLD at NY Comex closed at $497.75 an ounce for February, down $10.25 on yesterday. Feb, $497.00-$498.50; March, $501.40; April, $505.50-$507.50; June, $519.50-$520.50; Aug, $533.50-$534.00; Oct, $546.40; Dec, $559.50; Feb, $572.60; April, $585.70; June, $598.90; Aug, $612.10; Oct, $625.30; Dec, $638.60.

COPPER futures at the Comex finished a dull session with declines of 0.35 to 0.45 cent in nearbys with March off 0.50 cent at 81.15 cents a lb. Feb, 80.50c; March, 81.10c-81.25c; April, 82.50c; May, 83.70c-83.85c; July, 86.50c; Sept, 89.15c; Dec, 92.70c; Jan, 93.45c; March, 95.55c; May, 97.30c; July, 99.05c; Sept, 100.80c; Dec, 103.45c.

COTTON futures rose in moderate trading, with prices up 1.34 to 0.30 cents at midsession. March, 87.10c-87.25c; May, 88.20c-88.30c; July, 88.40c-88.59c; Oct, 84.70c-84.90c; Dec, 81.70c-81.80c; March, 82.50c-82.80c; May, 83.50c-84.00c; July, 84.00c-85.00c.

SUGAR.—March, 27.70-27.90c; May, 28.35-28.44c; July, 28.40-28.45c; Sept, 27.85c; Oct, 27.05-27.20c; Jan, 25.04c; March, 24.98c; May, 24.75-24.80c.

COFFEE.—March, 118.75-118.40c; May, 123.50c; July, 126.03-126.05c; Sept, 124.00-124.25c; Dec, 127.01-129.50c; March, 127.49-129.00c; May, 126.00-128.00c.

COCOA.—March, $1,872; May, $1,952; July, $2,025; Sept, $2,080; Dec, $2,155; March, $2,228; May, $2,292.

CHICAGO SOYABEANS ended near the top of a 7½ cents range, up 7½ to 1½ cents a bushel in slow turnover. March, 732½c-743½c; May, 779c-771½c; July, 802½c-795c; Aug, 808c-801½c; Sept, 812½c-807½c; Nov, 827½c-821c; Jan, 844c-838½c; March, 864c-859c. SOYABEAN OIL settled 0.25 to 0.4 cent a lb higher. March, 23.70c-23.68c; May, 24.15c-24.52c; July, 25.33c-25.40c; Aug, 25.75c; Sept, 26.00c-26.10c; Oct, 26.25c; Dec, 26.85c; Jan, 26.95c-27.10c; March, 27.35c-27.45c. SOYABEAN MEAL finished $0.10 a ton lower to $1.10 higher. March, $213.70-$215.30; May, $224.70-$224.50; July, $232.00-$232.20; Aug, $234.50; Sept, $237.00-$237.50; Oct, $237.00-$238.00; Dec, $241.00; Jan, $242.50.

CHICAGO GRAINS: WHEAT futures were very steady. March, 460c-455c; May, 464c-464½c; July, 464½c-460c; Sept, 477½c-474c; Dec, 502c-498½c; March, 516c-516½c. MAIZE was firm. March, 363½c-360c; May, 373½c-370½c; July, 381c-378c; Sept, 377½c-375c; Dec, 378½c-375½c; March, 388½c-385½c. OATS were firm. March, 236½c-234c; May, 237c-235c; July, 225c-221½c; Sept, 224½c-223c; Dec, 235c-232½c.

Foreign exchange.—Sterling, spot 2.33[illegible]; [illegible] 2.3340 [illegible]. Canadian dollar [illegible] (117.[illegible]). The Dow Jones spot commodity index was 423.[illegible]. The futures index was [illegible]. The Dow Jones averages.—Industrials, [illegible]

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

1980/81 High Bid	Low Offer	Trust	Bid	Offer	Yield
		Authorized Unit Trusts			
		[illegible]			
		Offshore and International Funds			
		[illegible]			

Stock Exchange Prices

Gilts make progress

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Feb 9. Dealings End, Feb 27. § Contango Day, March 2. Settlement Day, March 9.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS

[illegible]

MEDIUMS

[illegible]

LONGS

[illegible]

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

[illegible]

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

[illegible]

DOLLAR STOCKS

[illegible]

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

[illegible]

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

[illegible]

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

[illegible]

C—E

[illegible]

F—H

[illegible]

I—L

[illegible]

M—N

[illegible]

O—S

[illegible]

T—Z

[illegible]

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

[illegible]

INSURANCE

[illegible]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

[illegible]

SHIPPING

[illegible]

MINES

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OIL

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PROPERTY

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RUBBER

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TEA

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MISCELLANEOUS

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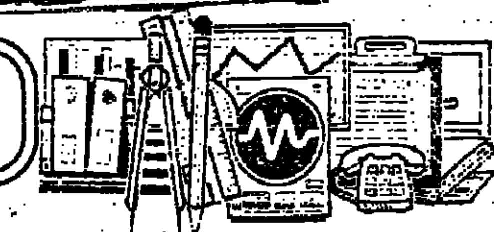
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RECENT ISSUES

[illegible]

RIGHTS ISSUES

[illegible]



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£2,250,000 bls. issued 11.2.81 maturing 13.5.81 at 12.7/16%. applic. tot. £19,000,000 and there are £8,500,000 bls. outstanding.

PUBLIC NOTICES

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FOOD SALMON AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES ACT 1975 THE THAMES WATER AUTHORITY (FIXED ENGINES) ORDER 1981

WHEREAS the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food has settled and made the Thames Water Authority (Fixed Engines) Order 1981 under the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975 to enable the Authority, with the approval of the Minister, to erect and work fixed engines within its own area for taking or killing salmon and migratory trout for artificial propagation or scientific purposes or, except during the annual close seasons, for the purpose of sale.

NOW NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that such Order will be confirmed and will thereupon become final and have effect as an Act of Parliament unless a Memorial is presented to the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on or before 16 March 1981 by a local authority or other person or association affected by such Order praying that the Order shall be subject to special Parliamentary procedure.

Copies of the Order may be obtained from the address below or from D. Parton Esq., Amenity and Fisheries Manager, Thames Water Authority, Nugent House, Vastern Road, Reading, Berkshire RG1 8DB.

H. R. NEILSON,
Assistant Secretary.
Ministry of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food,
Fisheries Division 1A,
Room 344,
Great Westminster House,
Horseferry Road,
London SW1P 2AE.
February, 1981.

Tank Museum Curator

The Museum, at the Royal Armoured Corps Centre in Dorset, deals with every aspect of 20th Century armoured vehicles and has a secondary role as a source of military instruction to the adjacent Armour School.

This post combines the functions of Curator, Secretary to the Trustees' Committees, and ex-officio Trustee of the Museum. The successful candidate will be responsible for a variety of functions including implementation of Trustees' policy; improvements to facilities; negotiations on international acquisitions and exchange of major exhibits; display arrangements; repair and conservation of exhibits; research; and dealing with public enquiries.

Candidates (preferably aged at least 26) should normally have a degree in a relevant subject, practical experience of armoured vehicles in the field, and staff experience relating to Armour; but those without a degree will be considered if their experience is of special value. Appreciation of armoured fighting vehicles' technology and knowledge of the history of the Household Cavalry and Royal Armoured Corps desirable. Experience of current museum techniques on conservation, display, research work and administration with the Army Department organisation, advantageous.

SALARY: £8,075-£10,500 according to qualifications and experience. Non-contributory pension scheme.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 4 March, 1981) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). *Please quote ref: G(2)382.*

Ministry of Defence

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LEGAL NOTICES

No 0021 of 1981
In the High Court of Justice Chancery Division Mr Registrar Bradburn In the Matter of DUN & BRADSTREET Limited and In the Matter of THE COMPANIES ACT 1948

Notice is hereby given that by an Order dated the 30th January, 1981 made in the above matters the Court has directed a Meeting of the holders of the Shares of 25p each of the above named Dun & Bradstreet Limited (hereinafter called "the Company") other than those that are beneficially owned by D & B Group, Ltd to be convened for the purpose of considering and if thought fit approving (with or without modification) a Scheme of Arrangement proposed to be made between the Company and the holders of its said Shares (other than aforesaid) and that such Meeting will be held at 26-32 Clifton Street, London, EC2P 2LY on Friday the 6th March, 1981 at 3.00 pm at which place and time all such Shareholders (other than aforesaid) are requested to attend.

Any person entitled to attend the said meeting can obtain copies of the said Scheme of Arrangement, Forms of Proxy and copies of the Statement required to be furnished pursuant to Section 207 of the above mentioned Act at the registered office of the said Company situate at 26/32 Clifton Street, London, EC2P 2LY and at the office of the undermentioned Solicitors at the address mentioned below during usual business hours on any day (other than a Saturday or Sunday) prior to the day appointed for the said Meeting.

The said Shareholders (other than aforesaid) may vote in person at the said Meeting or they may appoint another person, whether a Member of the Company or not, as their proxy to attend and vote in their stead. It is requested that forms appointing proxies be lodged with the Registrars of the Company Deloitte Haskins & Sells, of Bourne House, 34, Beckenham Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 4UP not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for the said Meeting, but if forms are not so lodged they may be handed to the Chairman at the said Meeting.

In the case of joint holders the vote of the senior who tenders a vote whether in person or by proxy will be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint holders and for this purpose seniority will be determined by the order in which the names stand in the Register of Members.

By the said Order the Court has appointed the Right Honourable Aubrey Geoffrey Frederick Rippon or failing him, Michael Ambrose Bardsley or failing him, David Burdett Money-Coutts to act as Chairman of the said Meeting and has directed the Chairman to report the result thereof to the Court.

The said Scheme of Arrangement will be subject to the subsequent approval of the Court.

Dated 12th day of February 1981
MESSRS MACFARLANES
Dowgate Hill House
London
EC4R 2SY
Solicitors for the Company

THE COMPANIES ACT, 1948. In the Matter of Dudley Decoration Limited, by Order of the High Court of Justice dated the 29th day of October, 1980,

I, Raymond Hocking, Certified Accountant, of Messrs. Sigs, Hayward and Partners, 44 Baker Street, London W.1, have been appointed LIQUIDATOR of the above-named Company. All debts and claims should be sent to me.

Dated this 3rd day of February, 1981.

R. HOCKING,
LIQUIDATOR.

LEGAL NOTICES

No 002980 of 1980
In the High Court of Justice Chancery Division Companies Court Mr Registrar Bradburn Wednesday the 17th day of December 1980 In the Matter of ANDOR SMITH (TRANSPORT) Limited and In the Matter of the COMPANIES ACT 1948.

Upon the application by Summons dated the 15th December 1980 of the Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator of the above-named Company and upon hearing the Applicant in person and upon reading the Order to wind up the said Company dated the 13th October 1980 the two reports of the Assistant Official Receiver as to the results of the MEETINGS of CREDITORS and CONTRIBUTORIES of the said Company made to the Court and both filed the 15th December 1980 and the Affidavit of Stephen Stewart Goldberg (as to the fitness of the Liquidator hereinafter appointed) filed the 15th December 1980

It is ordered that Derrick Stephen Woolf of 1 Market Street Worthing Sussex Chartered Accountant be and he is hereby appointed Liquidator of the said Company.

And it is ordered that the said Liquidator do within 7 days from the date of this Order give security to the satisfaction of the Secretary of State for Trade as provided by the Companies (Winding-up) Rules 1949

And notice of this Order is to be gazetted and advertised in the "Times" newspaper once

JOHN BRADBURN
Registrar

G. E. CARRIERS Limited
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of G. E. Carriers Limited, will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Thursday the 19th day of February 1981 at 3.30 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.

Dated the 3rd day of February 1981.

B. EVERSTAFF,
Director.

BUCKINGHAM MENS WEAR Limited
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 293 of the Companies Act, 1948, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of Buckingham Mens Wear Limited will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co., situated at 3/4 Bentinck Street, London W1A 3BA on Friday the 20th day of February 1981 at 12 o'clock midday, for the purposes provided for in Sections 294 and 295.

Dated the 2nd day of February 1981.

GRAHAM W. LACK,
Director.

Trade Association Secretary

Salary not less than £10,000 pa. London SW1.

Well established and influential, the Process Plant Association wishes to appoint a suitably qualified and experienced person to be responsible for the overall administration of the Association.

The Secretary will report to the Director-General and undertake the major duties of this key position which include primarily the servicing of the Council of the Association, organising the Association's A.G.M. and other meetings and functions, and dealing with membership matters. Additional responsibilities will cover the statutory duties of a Company Secretary, office management and supervision of junior staff.

Candidates, ideally aged over 45 must offer administrative experience of trade association and/or committee work and be able to communicate both orally and in writing. Formal qualifications in accounting, secretarial practice, law and/or economics advantageous. Personal qualities must demonstrate the ability to mix well at all levels, a cheerful presence, enthusiasm and willingness to adapt to all situations.

A negotiable salary of not less than £10,000 pa is anticipated for the calibre candidate selected. Excellent conditions prevail including contributory pension scheme, interest-free season ticket loan and luncheon vouchers.

Preference will be given to those candidates within easily accessible daily travelling distance of the appointment.

Please write to Pat Cook, PER, 4-5 Grosvenor Place, London SW1X 7SB.

Applications are welcome from both men and women

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BRITISH POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL FEDERATION
(University of London)

RECORDS CO-ORDINATOR; SOUTH-WEST THAMES REGION

Applications are invited for this post on the staff of the Regional Postgraduate Dean for the South-West Thames Region. The Records Co-ordinator will be responsible to the Information Service Manager. He/she will collect and maintain accurate and up-to-date records on hospital posts and hospital doctors in the region, combining manual and computerised systems in order to provide an information system for individuals and organisations concerned with postgraduate medical education. The successful applicant will have a broad general education, preferably to 'A' or degree level, a keen analytical and logical approach, the ability to work independently and a flair for high-lighting anomalies. He/she will have in-depth experience of records systems, a knowledge of filing systems and general office procedures and the ability to communicate effectively at all levels; knowledge of the structure and function of manpower related activities in the NHS would be advantageous. The post will be paid on the University Executive Officer Grade, £6,739-£7,618 per annum, inclusive of London Weighting (under review).

Written applications giving the names of two referees should be addressed to Professor G. Dick, 14 Ulster Place, London NW1 5HD to arrive by 27 February, 1981. Further information and a full job description may be obtained from Mr R. Viner, telephone 01-935 8175 Ext 3.

UNIVERSITY OF KONSTANZ
Applications are invited for the post of

LEKTOR FOR ENGLISH
at the Sprachlehrinstitut

The post is to be filled as from 1st October, 1981 for a maximum of 4 years.

Applicants should be prepared to teach a wide variety of classes, mainly to students of the English Department but also to students of other faculties. They should also have clearly defined particular interests with a view to publication, and be interested in course development and materials writing.

The required qualifications are a 1st degree in English or Modern Languages, an M.A. or equivalent qualification in Applied Linguistics or related disciplines, at least 5 years' teaching experience. A good knowledge of German would be an advantage.

Applications should be addressed to
Prof. Dr. Peter Hartmann, Sprachlehrinstitut der Universität Konstanz, Postfach 5560, 7750 Konstanz (Germany), within six weeks of publication of this advertisement.

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No formal qualifications are required, but candidates must have a wide experience of the trade and have sufficient standing to appear as expert witness on behalf of Customs & Excise in cases that come to court. A knowledge of antiques would be an advantage.

Starting salary within the range £5,610-£6,490, depending on qualifications and experience. For further details and an application form (to be returned by 9 March, 1981) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0256) 68551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: T/8496/5.

CURATOR GRADE G—NATIONAL ARMY MUSEUM CHELSEA

. . . required for the Department of Records. Duties include day-to-day administration of the Reading Room, which provides a service for other departments of the museum and for the public: retrieval, storage, accessioning, classification and indexing of books and periodicals, and assisting with enquiries.

Qualifications: GCE or Scottish Certificate 'O' levels in English and at least 3 other subjects. Candidates considered with other qualifications or experience of special value. Library Association qualifications and/or library work experience an advantage.

Salary: Junior Scale £2,602 at age 16 to £3,640 at age 20. Main scale £3,825-£4,776, Inner London Weighting Allowance of £1,016 p.a.

Hours: 41 per week.

Further details and application form ring 01-430 6820 or write to:

Ministry of Defence
Room 340
Lacon House
Theobalds Road
WC1X 8RY

CAMPSITE Representatives required April-Oct. for France, Italy, Yugoslavia and Austria. Knowledge of languages preferred but like experience not essential. Send full details of yourself and availability for the season to Box No. 2575 F, The Times.

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Merseyside County Council

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We offer usual staff benefits and free meals on duty. Please send a c.v. in the first instance to The Personnel Manager, Royal Lancaster Hotel, Lancaster Terrace, London, W.2.

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OIL
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(continued on page 28)

هكذا من الأصل

PERSONAL CHOICE



The Lumière Brothers, Louis and Auguste: Their pioneering story is told in Camera, on ITV, 11.00 pm.

Flickers, last year's ATV series, was the fiction about the early film pioneers, the hand-crankers. Granada's new seven-part series Camera (ITV, 11.00) is about what really happened. The first film is devoted to the Lumière twins who, towards the end of the last century, invented the Cinematograph which gave its name to the industry. But, as we learn, the camera was only part of the story. As well as taking those familiar pictures of the train pulling into the station at Ciotat, in the south of France (it is still there, looking remarkably unchanged), the Lumières invented the Autochrome which produced still photographs of rural scenes that have about them the beauty and dignity of great paintings. Clearly, Camera is a series not just for film buffs but for anyone with jaded optics.

Even though there cannot possibly be anything else that's new for him to say about his long career in broadcasting, Huw Wheldon is almost bound to give the impression that he is saying it all for the first time when he is interviewed in the Russell Harty Show tonight (BBC 2, 8.30) . . . The second screening of Philip Mackie's dramatization of Francis Iles's Malice Aforethought (BBC 1, 9.25), which is about a medical worm that turns, serves to remind us that this was the serial which made us sit up and take notice of Hywel Bennett, until then an actor of strictly limited appeal and, so it appeared, only average talent.

Tonight's Music-Hall Greats presentation (BBC 2, 6.15) is the Gracie Fields film nobody shows any interest in talking about, including the compilers of reference books. I don't understand this. It is no worse than, let's say Sally in Our Alley or Sing as We Go, or Queen of Hearts. If anything, it is marginally better than them. But it is not only, nor even principally, because of Our Gracie that you ought to watch it but because its supporting cast is studded with players such as Edward Rigby, Amy Veness and Arthur Sinclair, who made up one of the finest unofficial repertory companies in the history of British cinema.

Kaleidoscope (Radio 4, 9.35) comments on the 1980 W. H. Smith Literary Award-winning book. . . . There is a second chance (Radio 3, 3.30) to hear the recital by the man who won the 1979 International Schoenberg Piano Competition. He is the French-Canadian Louis-Philippe Pelletier, and he plays Schoenberg's Three Pieces Op 11 and Debussy's Four Études. . . . Two deservedly popular works in tonight's concert from Lancaster University (Radio 4, 7.30), the Schumann Piano Concerto (Craig Sheppard, soloist), and the Bruckner Symphony No 6. The orchestra is the BBC Northern, under Marek Janowski.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: †STEREO; *BLACK AND WHITE; (r) REPEAT.

Broadcasting Guide

Edited by Peter Davalle

TELEVISION

BBC 1

9.00 am For Schools, Colleges. Europe from the air; 9.25 Geometry; 9.47 Science; shaping materials; 10.10 Keep up with the Times; 10.35 Friends and Friendship; 11.05 When the Wind Blows; 11.30 How Castles Developed; 11.55 Between the Tides; 12.10 pm Closedown.

12.45 News. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: Tony Bilbow interviews Stewart Grainger, one of the best swashbuckling stars Britain ever produced. **1.45 Bod. 2.00 You and Me:** Vicki Luke with lines and circles and bendy lines.

2.15 For Schools, Colleges: Music Time; 2.40 Television Club: A Place Like Home: Jackie.

3.00 Claire Rayner's Casebook: This series about people's matrimonial problems is repeated. Miss Rayner talks to a divorced woman and a couple who managed to stay together (r).

3.55 Play School: Jill Tomlinson's story Dark is Beautiful. Can also be seen on BBC 2 at 11.00 am.

4.20 Touché Turtle: cartoon. Catch as Catch Can. **4.25 Jackanory:** Sheila Hancock reads from Eleanor Farjeon's The Little Bookroom. The drawings are Susan King's.

4.40 Scooby and Scrappy Doo: cartoon. Strange Encounters of a Scooby Kind. **5.00 John Craven's Newsround:** mini-newsreel. **5.05 Blue Peter:** How the children of British soldiers in Germany are helping to swell the Blue Peter Bring and Buy Sale Appeal. **5.35 The Perishers;** with Leonard Rossiter (r).

5.40 News: with Peter Woods. **5.55 Regional news magazines.** All regions unite in Nationwide at 6.20. Includes Tony Watkinson's film on how he lived among London's alcoholics and derelicts.

7.00 Tomorrow's World: There are items on records that can be played by driving a car over them, and on the bugging of car telephones.

7.25 Top of the Pops: The latest hits, introduced by Richard Skinner.

8.05 Wildlife on One: Out in the Cold. How animals and plants manage to survive in temperatures that would destroy human life. The film sequences were shot in the Himalayas, the Arctic and the Antarctic.

8.30 Partners: Comedy series about a divorced couple and the Other Woman. Tonight, why the couple agree to pretend that they are still man and wife. With Derek Warning, Mel Martin, Elizabeth Counsell.

9.00 News: with Kenneth Kendall.

9.25 Malice Aforethought: Second showing of this serial, adapted from Francis Iles's book, about a doctor (Hywell Bennett) with a detestable wife (Judy Parfitt), who fatefully falls for a young girl (Cheryl Campbell) (see Personal Choice).

10.20 Question Time: Robin Day's panel tonight consists of Sir Max Beloff, of Buckingham University; the Right Rev Edward Daly, Bishop of Londonderry; Edna Healey; and Norman St John Stevas, former Minister for the Arts.

11.20 Kojak: The father of a girl, criminally assaulted by two youths, tells her not to tell the police.

12.10 am Weather forecast.

Regions

BBC 1 VARIATIONS:—BBC Cymru/Wales: 10.10 am-10.30 I Ysgolion. 2.15 pm-2.35 I Ysgolion. 5.55-6.20 Wales Today. 7.00-7.25 Heddiw. 12.10 am News and Close. **Scotland:** 10.10 am-10.30 For Schools. 12.40 pm-12.45 Scottish News. 3.25-3.35 The Afternoon Show. 5.55-6.20 Reporting Scotland. 8.30-9.00 The Current Account. Report. 12.10 am News for Scotland; Close. **Northern Ireland:** 11.30 am-11.50 For Schools. 3.53 pm-3.55 Northern Ireland News. 5.55-6.20 Scene Around Six. 10.20-10.50 Sportswork. 10.50-11.18 You and Your Rights. 12.10 am News and Close. **England:** 5.55 pm-6.20 Regional magazines. 12.15 am Close.

BBC 2

11.00 am Play School: The same as BBC 1, 3.55 (Dark is Beautiful, by Jill Tomlinson). Closedown at 11.25.

4.00 pm Open University: Childhood: 5-10: family matters; 4.25 Dome on the Range; 4.50 The Pre-School Child: Going shopping. Closedown at 5.15.

5.40 Charlie Chaplin: The Immigrant*. One of Chaplin's earliest crusading comedies: thought-provoking and funny. It's the one about people arriving in the New World, with new hopes.

6.15 Music-Hall Greats: The Show Must Go On* (1937) Comedy about a Lancashire mill girl (Gracie Fields) who wants to be a professional singer. Unsophisticated fun, with its heart in the right place. Also starring Owen Nares, John Stuart. Director: Basil Dean. (See Personal Choice.)

7.40 Cartoon: Boom, Boom, Boom. It was made by Jack Stokes.

7.45 News with sub-titles for the hard of hearing. And weather forecast.

8.00 Writers and Places: Growing up in Macondo. The place is the small village of Aracataca near Colombia's Caribbean coast. The writer is Gabriel Garcia Marquez whose book One Hundred Years of Solitude has sold 10 million copies since it was published in 1967.

8.30 Russell Harty: He interviews that perfecter of the TV presenter's technique, Huw Wheldon. (See Personal Choice.)

9.00 The Little World of Don Camillo: The village priest's old film projector gives up the ghost, and Peppone, the mayor, receives a gift from the Soviet Union—the village's first TV set.

9.30 Man Alive: Jobs for Life. The good and bad effects of a 1972 Liverpool docks agreement that resulted in workers' still getting paid not less than £78 a week whether they work or not. We see former union leader Jack Jones revisiting the docklands.

10.20 The Mike Harding Show: The songs this Lancashire comedian singer performs include The Saga of Strangeways Hotel, inspired by prison life.

10.50 Newsnight: The day's most important news stories. The bulletins are read by Linda Alexander, and Marshall Lee presents the sports results. Ends at 11.40.

THAMES

9.30 am For Schools: Politicians and the TV platform; 9.52 When people and things get lost; 10.09 Industrial society; 10.31 Modern theory on evolution; 10.53 A-level biology; 11.10 The need for exercise, rest and sleep; 11.27 Film about Captain Cook; 11.44 Picture Box.

12.00 Gideon: Stories about a duckling. With the voice of Tim Brooke-Taylor; **12.10 pm Stepping Stones:** Vicky Ireland and her puppet Stiggy and the story of The Gingerbread Man; **12.30 The Sullivans:** an Australian family—at war and at home. The serial continues.

1.00 News; 1.20 Thames news; 1.30 Together: Serial about the folk living in a block of flats.

2.00 After Noon Plus: Today's guest is the cellist Julian Lloyd Webber. He plays The Swan, and talks about his life in music.

2.45 Fallen Hero: serial about a former professional rugby player (Del Henney). The final episode. His stepson is on trial for murder (r); **3.45 In Loving Memory:** Comedy about a family firm of funeral undertakers. Today, Billy (Christopher Beany) sees the girl of his dreams (r).

4.15 Watch It! A story about Dr Snuggles, the inventor; 4.20 Little House on the Prairie: Hooligans threaten a widower's plans to begin a new life in business; **5.15 Emmerdale Farm:** Richard Anstey receives an ultimatum from Seth Armstrong.

5.45 News; 6.00 Thames area news; 6.25 Help! Old people's rights, as set out in a new edition of an Age Concern booklet.

6.35 Charlie's Angels: Mechanically-made American series about some mechanically-motivated girl detectives; **7.30 The Jim Davidson Show:** In tonight's batch of sketches, Mr Davidson plays an advertising agent, a public executioner, and a man afraid of being stung. There are songs from Linda Lewis.

8.00 Bognor: Second episode of the Tim Heald whodunnit series about a special investigator (David Horovitch) and some stolen trade secrets. With Joanna McCallum.

8.30 TV Eye: Current affairs programme.

9.00 Hill Street Blues: American police series. The President's visit is cancelled and gang warfare breaks out. With Michael Conrad.

10.00 News. And Thames news headlines.

10.30 Thames Report: For the first time, television cameras go into the new Holloway prison to investigate allegations that drugs are being dangerously misused to control prisoners.

11.00 Camera: First in a new series about the movie pioneers. Tonight: The Brothers Lumière and how they startled audiences back in 1895 with their moving pictures. The narrator is Gus Macdonald (see Personal Choice).

11.30 Three's Company: First in a new series of American comedies based on the successful ITV series Man about the House. Tonight, two young women seek a third flat-mate to share the rent.

12.00 What the Papers Say: The presenter is Nicholas Owen, of Now! magazine.

12.15 am Close: Jeremy Lloyd reads one of his animal poems.

RADIO

Radio 4

6.00 am News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today.
7.00, 8.00 News.
7.30, 8.30 Headlines.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
9.00 News.
9.05 Checkpoint.
9.30 The Living World.
10.00 News.
10.02 People and Places.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Story: The Telephone Code, by Donald Bancroft.
11.00 News.
11.05 File on 4.
11.50 Enquire Within.
12.00 News.
12.02 pm You and Yours.
12.27 Never Too Late.†
12.55 Weather.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News.
3.02 Play: The Sport of Angels, by Ken Whitmore.
4.00 Fritz Spiegl's Musical Alphabet.
4.15 Bookshelf.
4.45 The Towers of Trebizond (7).
5.00 PM.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News.
6.30 Any Answers?
6.55 It's a Bargain.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Time for Verse.
7.30 Concert, pt 1: Schumann†. (See Personal Choice.)
8.05 Two Steps to Takamatsu.
8.25 Concert, pt 2: Bruckner.†
9.35 Kaleidoscope.
10.00 The World Tonight.
11.00 The Harambe Report (4).
11.15 Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
12.00 News.
12.15 am-12.23 Shipping forecast.

VHF

9.05 am-9.30 Schools: A Service for Schools; Music Interlude. 10.00 Schools: Sounds, Words and Movement; Music Interlude; Stories and Rhymes. 10.30-10.45 Listen With Mother. 11.00-12.00 Schools: Time and Tune (14); Man; Home or Away. 2.00 pm-3.00 Schools: Living Language; Look!; Living Through History. 11.00-11.30 Study on 4: Punti di vista (15).

Radio 3

6.55 am Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Records: Nielsen, Grieg, Vaughan Williams, Ravel.†
8.00 News.
8.05 Records: Arne, C. P. E. Bach, Boccherini.†
9.00 News.
9.05 Week's Composer: Wolf.
9.45 Trio-Sonatas: Handel, Corelli, Boyce.†
10.15 Light music: Barber, C. Brown, Lambert, Ropartz, Debussy.†
11.15 Singers (BBC Northern/Wilkinson).†
12.00 Northern Sinfonia Orch/Parikian: C. P. E. Bach, Donizetti, Delius, Hadyn (Sym 6).†
1.00 pm News.
1.05 Violin, piano (Amoyal-Dalberto—live from Royal Exchange, Manchester): Fauré, Beethoven (op 30 no 3).†
2.00 Music Group of London: Rawsthorne, Bliss.†
2.55 German songs.
3.30 Piano: Schoenberg (op 11), Debussy.† (See Personal Choice).
4.05 Talk (D. Stevens): Violin Music in the Renaissance.
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure.†
7.00 Talking about Music.†
7.30 Play: The Joking Habit, by David Cregan.†
8.30 Songs: Villa-Lobos.†
8.50 Angels with Maracas: study of Alejo Carpentier.
9.35 Record: Copland.†
9.50 Talk: Words.
9.55 Quartet (Lindsay): Haydn (op 20 no 3), Mendelssohn (op 12).†
11.00 News.
11.05-11.15 Record: Nielsen.†

Radio 2

5.00 am News, weather. 5.03 Bob Kilbey.† 7.32 Terry Wogan.† 10.03 Jimmy Young.† 12.03 pm David Hamilton.† 2.03 Ed Stewart.† 4.03 Much More Music.† 6.03 John Dunn.† 8.02 Country Club.† 9.02 Alan Dell.† 10.02 A Very Private Man. 10.30 Star Sound Extra. 11.02 Brian Matthew. 2.02 am-5.00 You and the Night and the Music.†

Radio 1

5.00 am As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.00 Andy Peebles. 12.30 pm Newsbeat. 12.45 Paul Burnett. 2.32 Dave Lee Travis. 4.32 Steve Wright. 7.00 Wheels. 8.00 Richard Skinner. 10.02 John Peel.† 12.00 Close.

VHF RADIOS 1 AND 2: 5.00 am With Radio 2. 10.00 pm With Radio 1. 12.00-5.00 am With Radio 2.

World Service

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz, 463m) at the following times (GMT):

6.00 am Newsdesk. 7.00 World News. 7.09 Twenty-four Hours. 7.45 Network UK. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Reflections. 8.15 Four Hands in Harmony. 8.30 Words. 9.00 World News. 9.09 Review of the British Press. 9.15 The World Today. 9.30 Financial News. 9.40 Look Ahead. 9.45 A Touch of Genius. 10.15 Thomas Carlyle. 10.30 My Word! 11.00 World News. 11.09 News about Britain. 11.15 Intermezzo. 11.30 Business Matters. 12.00 Radio Newsreel. 12.15 pm The Twenties. 12.45 Sports Round-up. 1.00 World News. 1.09 Twenty-four Hours. 1.30 Network UK. 1.45 The Pleasure's Yours. 2.30 Discovery. 3.00 Radio Newsreel. 3.15 Outlook. 4.00 World News. 4.09 Commentary. 4.15 Assignment. 4.45 The World Today. 5.00 World News. 5.09 Waveguide. 5.15 Benny Green on Dickens. 5.45 Sports Round-up. 8.00 World News. 8.09 Twenty-four Hours. 9.15 Ulster Newsletter. 9.20 In the Meantime. 9.30 Business Matters. 10.00 World News. 10.09 The World Today. 10.25 Book Choice. 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections. 10.45 Sports Round-up. 11.00 World News. 11.09 Commentary. 11.15 Merchant Navy Programme. 11.30 Emlyn. 12.00 World News. 12.09 am News about Britain. 12.15 Radio Newsreel. 12.30 An Ordinary Pebble. 1.15 Outlook. 1.45 Ulster Newsletter. 1.50 In the Meantime. 2.00 World News. 2.09 Review of the British Press. 2.15 Peebles' Choice. 2.30 Thirty-Minute Theatre. 3.00 World News. 3.09 News about Britain. 3.15 The World Today. 3.30 Business Matters. 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today.

WAVELENGTHS: Radio 1 medium wave 275m/1089kHz or 285m/1053kHz. Radio 2 med wave 330m/909kHz or 433m/693kHz and 88-91 VHF. Radio 3 med wave 247m/1215kHz and 90-92.5 VHF. Radio 4 long wave 1500m/200kHz and 92-95 VHF. Greater London area only: med wave 720kHz/417m. LBC 261m, 97.3 VHF, Capital 194m, 95.8 VHF. World Service: med wave 648kHz (463m). BBC Radio London 206m, 94.9 VHF.

REGIONAL TV

Anglia

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20-5.15 Project UFO. 6.00 About Anglia. 6.20 Arena. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Bygones. 10.30-11.00 Heritage for Sale. 11.30 Kate Loves a Mystery. 12.25 am Christians in Action.

Westward

As Thames except: 12.27 pm-12.30 Gus Honeybun's Birthdays. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 Westward Diary. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Survival. 10.32 News. 10.36 Unforgettable. 11.05 Camera. 11.30-11.35 Faith for Life.

Channel

As Thames except: 12.00-12.30 pm Closedown. 1.20-1.30 News. 6.00 Channel Report. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Untamed World. 10.28 News. 10.38 Unforgettable. 11.05-11.30 Camera.

Border

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Salvage 1. 5.15-5.45 New Fred and Barney Show. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Benson. 11.30 News. 11.33 Closedown.

Granada

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Granada Reports. 4.20-5.45 Film: Abbott and Costello in Hollywood. 6.00 Granada Reports. 6.25 This is your Right. 6.30 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Benson. 11.30 What the Papers Say. 11.50-12.45 am Paris.

Tyne Tees

As Thames except: Starts 9.20 am The Good Word. 9.25-9.30 North East News. 1.20-1.30 North East News and Lookaround. 3.45 pm-4.15 Father Dear Father. 4.20 The Fantastic Four. 4.45-5.45 Tarzan. 6.00 North East News. 6.02 Crossroads. 6.25 Northern Life. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.32 Northern Scene. 11.00 Come in, if you can get in. 11.30 Soap. 12.00 Way of the Cross. 12.05 am Closedown.

Scottish

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Life Begins at Forty. 5.15 Tales of Crime. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.15 Action Line. 6.30 Sounds Gaelic. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 In Concert: Mike Oldfield. 11.30 Late Call. 11.35-12.30 am Lou Grant.

ATV

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Life Begins at Forty. 4.20 Vic the Viking. 4.50-5.45 Little House on the Prairie. 6.00 News. 6.05 Crossroads. 6.30 ATV Today. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Here and Now. 11.30 News. 11.35-12.35 am Lou Grant.

Southern

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 5.15 Betty Boop. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Day by Day. 6.30 University Challenge. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Your Westminster. 11.30 Paris by Night. 12.00 What the Papers Say. 12.20 am Weather followed by Recovery of Health.

Grampian

As Thames except: Starts 9.25 am-9.30 First Thing. 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 4.20 Salvage 1. 5.10-5.15 Police News. 6.00 North Tonight. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Electric Theatre Show. 10.30-11.00 Cover to Cover. 11.30 Paris. 12.25 am News.

HTV

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 5.10 Jobline. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Report West. 6.30 Happy Days. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.28 News. 10.35 Your Chance. 11.05-12.00 SWAT.

HTV CYMRU/WALES: As HTV West except: 9.30 am-9.45 About Wales. 12.00-12.10 pm Owain a'r Ollon. 4.15-4.20 Hiawatha. 4.20-4.45 Take a Chance. 4.45-5.10 Sêr. 5.10-5.20 Cartoon. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 6.30-7.00 Sports Arena. 10.35-11.20 Impromptu. 11.20-12.15 am SWAT.

Ulster

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 Lunchtime. 3.45 Life Begins at Forty. 4.13-4.15 News. 5.15 Cartoon. 5.20-5.45 Crossroads. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.50 Police Six. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 Counterpoint. 11.30-11.40 Bedtime.

Yorkshire

As Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30 News. 3.45-4.15 Country Calendar. 4.20 Fantastic Four. 4.45-5.45 Little House on the Prairie. 6.00 Calendar. 6.35 Crossroads. 7.00-7.30 Emmerdale Farm. 10.30-11.00 With a Little Help. 11.30-12.00 Unforgettable.

Entertainments Guide

Unsold seats at cut price to students just before performance. Most credit cards accepted for telephone bookings or at the box office.

When telephoning use prefix 01 only outside London Metropolitan Area.

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM S 836 3161 cc 240 5258.
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
Tonight & Wed 7.30. Cinderella. Tomor 7.30; Tosca. Sat & Tues 7.30: Madame Butterfly. 104 balcony seats avail from 10 am on day of perf.

COVENT GARDEN 240 1066. S (Gardencharge cc 836 6903). 65 Amphiseats avail for all perfs from 10.00 a.m. on the day of perf.
THE ROYAL BALLET
Ton't at 7.30 Troy Game. A Month in the Country, Les Noces. Tomor at 7.30 La Fille mal gardée. Sat at 2.00 and 7.30. Wed at 7.30 Giselle.
THE ROYAL OPERA
Mon at 7.00 Lulu.

SADLER'S WELLS THEATRE EC1 01-837 1672/1673/3856. Credit cards 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 01-278 0871.
Until Feb 21
D'OYLY CARTE presents
GILBERT & SULLIVAN OPERAS
Eves 7.30. Mats Sats and Feb 18 2.30. Tonight until Sat The Pirates of Penzance. Monday until Sat Feb 21 mat Ruddigore. (Sat eve perf Trust Assoc Membs only). Seats £2.00 to £7.80.

CONCERTS

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL, 01-928 3191. BOYS OF THE LOUGH with Flora MacNeil (Barra) on Tues. Feb 24, 7.45. Traditional music from Ireland, Scotland and Shetland. Tickets £2-£3.50.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL (01-928 3191). Tonight 8 & Sun 3.15 LPO Kurt Sanderling, Mayumi Fujikawa. Beethoven: Ov. Prometheus. Violin Concerto. Brahms: Symphony 1.

THEATRES

ADELPHI S CC 01-836 7611 Evgs at 7.30. Sats. 4.0 & 7.45. Mats. Thursday at 3.0
TONY BRITTON
PETER BAYLISS
and ANNA NEAGLE in
MY FAIR LADY
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ALBERY S 836 3878 cc bkgs 379 6565. Grp bkgs 379 6061, 836 3962. Eves 8. Thurs mat 3.00. Stalls from £2.90. Sat 5 & 8.15. "SIAN PHILLIPS 'A KNOCKOUT'" S. Times. S. Exp. DENIS LAWSON Most Promising New Actor DRAMA AWARD 1980
PAL JOEY
"IS SOMETHING TO BE SEEN AT ALL COSTS" (F.T.). ROGERS & HART'S GREATEST HIT (D. Mail). "GLITTERINGLY SLEAZY, SHEER THEATRICAL RAZZLE DAZZLE Std.

ALDWYCH S 836 6404 cc 379 6233 (10-6. Sats 10-4). Info 836 5332
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY. Ton't 7.30
JUNO AND THE PAYCOCK
by Sean O'Casey
Judi Dench, winner of four awards as Juno, "Trevor Nunn's stunning revival" D. Mail. With: Peter Nichols' PASSION PLAY (Tomor) and Nikolai Erdman's THE SUICIDE (next perf 26 Feb). Postal booking 0023. Group Sales 379 6061. RSC also at The Warehouse/Piccadilly.

AMBASSADORS S cc 836 1171 Eves 8. Tue 3. Sat 5.30 & 8.30.
J. B. PRIESTLEY'S
Mystery Play
DANGEROUS CORNER
"One of the cleverest plays ever written" Daily Telegraph.

CHURCHILL cc 460 6677/5838 Bromley, Kent. 7.45 Sat 4.30 & 8 Thurs. 2.30. FAITH BROOK, JOHN ARNATT, LUCY GUTTERIDGE, TONY CAUNTER, DAVID TROUGHTON in EDGAR WALLACE's thriller THE CASE OF THE FRIGHTENED LADY.

COMEDY THEATRE S cc 01-930 3578. Last week. Evgs. 8.15. Mat Today 3.00. Sat. 4.00.
RALPH RICHARDSON
in the National Theatre prod. of
EARLY DAYS
by David Storey
RALPH RICHARDSON: "TRIUMPH" Gdn. "UNFORGETTABLE" Int Hld Trib "NOT TO BE MISSED" Punch. Group Sales 379 6061.

COTTESLOE N.T's small auditorium: This normally £3.70 (day tkts from 10 am £2.20, student standby 45 mins. before start £1.50). Opens Ton't 7 pm. Tomor 7.45 THE TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN by Tom Taylor.

CRITERION S 930 3216 cc 379 6565. Grp Bkgs 836 3962 or 379 6061. Eves. 8. Sat. 6 & 8.45.
Robin Ray, Jonathan Adams, Martin Connor, Tricia George in
A SATIRICAL REVUE
TOMFOOLERY
Words, music & lyrics of Tom Lehrer
"HILARIOUS, BARBED AND BUBBLY" Sunday Times "OUTRAGEOUS" Guardian

DRURY LANE, Theatre Royal. Tel. 01-836 8108.
THE BEST LITTLE WHORE HOUSE IN TEXAS
Opens Feb. 26 at 7.00. Reduced price previews Feb. 21, 23, 24, 25 at 8.00.

DUKE OF YORKS S 836 5122. Credit Cards 379 6565 836 9837. 839 4682. Group Bookings 836 3962. 379 6061 Evgs 8.00. Sats 5.0 & 8.30. Stalls & Circle from £2.90.
FRANCES DE LA TOUR
ACTRESS OF THE YEAR
Swet awards 80
BEST ACTRESS
New Standard Drama Awards 80
BEST PERFORMANCE BY AN ACTRESS
1980 DRAMA AWARDS
and DAVID DE KEYSER
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR
Drama Awards of the Year 1980
in TOM KEMPINSKI'S
DUET FOR ONE
BEST NEW PLAY
Drama Awards 1980
"THE AMAZING NEW PLAY" Daily Telegraph
"NO ONE INTERESTED IN THE THEATRE CAN AFFORD NOT TO SEE THIS PRODUCTION" F.T.

GARRICK S cc 01-836 4601 Feb. 16 7.0 Subs. evenings 8.0. Until 16 March.
MAX WALL

GLOBE S cc 437 1592, 439 6770.
FOR 12 WEEKS ONLY
ROWAN ATKINSON
IN REVUE
Previews Feb. 17 & 18 at 8.00. Opens Feb. 19, 7.0. Subs 8.0. Sat 6.0 & 8.45. BOOK NOW!

GREENWICH THEATRE S cc 858 7755. Evgs. 8.0 (sharp). Mat. Sats. 2.30. DONALD SINDEN in PRESENT LAUGHTER by Noel Coward. Ends here 7th March! Open 12th March CONSTANCE CUMMINS in THE GOLDEN AGE, new play by A. R. Gurney.

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE 722 9301.
Jean-Claude Gromberg's
THE WORKSHOP
Last 2 wks.
Book now to avoid disappointment
8 p.m., Sat. 4.30 & 8 p.m.

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL, cc 01-930 9832. Only 10 more weeks. Mon-Sat eves. at 8.0 MAGGIE SMITH "a great tragicomic actress in full bloom" Financial Times in
VIRGINIA
"a beautifully crafted, highly emotional experience" D. Tel. A new play by Edna O'Brien from the lives and writings of Virginia and Leonard Woolf. Directed by Robin Phillips. "RADIATES PERFECTION" S. Exp. Latecomers may not be admitted.

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH cc 01-741 2311. Eves 7.30. Sats 4.30 & 8.15. HOBSON'S CHOICE. Cast includes Arthur Lowe, Julia McKenzie, Ronald Pickup. "... thoroughly enjoyable comedy" New Standard. LYRIC STUDIO: Ends Sat! Eves 8.0 MARIKA'S CAFE THEATRE with Marika Rivera.

KINGS HEAD. 226 1916. Dnr 7. Show 8. DAFFODILS — The Barrow Poets.

LYTTELTON (NT's proscenium stage): Ton't., tomor. 7.45, The ELEPHANT MAN by Bernard Pomerance. (Feb. 18, 19, 20, 21, 23 LAST PERFS WATCH ON THE RHINE by Lillian Hellman).

LYRIC S cc 01-437 3686. evgs. 8.0 Mat Wed 3.0. Sat 5.30, 8.30.
DINSDALE LANDEN
NICOLA PAGETT
in ALAN AYCKBOURN'S
TAKING STEPS
"A VERY FUNNY EVENING. ENJOYED MYSELF ENORMOUSLY" Evening News
"THE BEST FARCE IN TOWN"—Punch.

NATIONAL THEATRE. S cc 928 2252. FOR REPERTOIRE SEE SEPARATE ENTRIES UNDER OLIVIER/LYTTELTON / COTTESLOE. Car park. Restaurant 928 2033. Credit card bkgs. 928 5933. TOURS OF THE BUILDING daily (incl. backstage) £1.50. Info. 633 0880.

OLD VIC. 928 7616 cc 261 1821 "S" Last perfs Ton't. & Tomor. at 7.30 Sat. at 2.00 & 7.30. THE RELAPSE by Sir John Vanbrugh. From Tues. next to 14 March WAITING FOR GODOT.

OLIVIER (NT's open stage): Tomor. Sat. 7.30 (low price Prevs) A MONTH IN THE COUNTRY by Ivan Turgenev trans by Isiah Berlin.

PALACE. S cc 01-437 6834
"OH WHAT A BEAUTIFUL EVENING!" Daily Mail.
Rodger's & Hammerstein's
OKLAHOMA!
"A MAGICAL MUSICAL EXPERIENCE" S. Times.
Evenings 7.30. Mats. Wed. Sat. 3.00. For group bookings 01-379 6061. Better selection of seats available Mon.-Thur.

PALLADIUM. 01-437 7373. Evgs 7.30. Mats Tues. Wed. Thur & Sat. at 2.45. JIM DAVIDSON, MOLLIE SUGDEN, WINDSOR DAVIES, MELVYN HAYES, CLIVE DUNN, LIONEL BLAIR in
DICK WHITTINGTON
"Bright, fast-moving, dazzling spectacle . . . Worth every penny". D. Mirror. Book now. Box Office and all agents. Credit cards accepted. Group sales box office 379 6061.
FORTHCOMING ATTRACTION THE LIBERACE SHOW '81 Starring "MR SHOWMANSHIP"
LIBERACE
with supporting company OPENS APRIL 28th for 2 weeks only.
BOX OFFICE NOW OPEN

PALLADIUM 01-437 7373. Opening June 11 (Special Previews from May 29).
MICHAEL CRAWFORD in
BARNUM
THE SMASH HIT BROADWAY MUSICAL. Postal booking now open.

PHOENIX c.c. 01-836 2294/5. Credit Card Bookings 01-836 8611.
THAT'S SHOWBIZ!
The Sensational Variety Spectacular. TWICE DAILY at 6.00 & 8.30. Prices: £2.50, £3.50, £4.50, £5.50.

PRINCE EDWARD. S cc Box Off. 437 6877, cc Hotline 439 8499. Grp. sales 379 6061. Eves 8.0 Mat. Thur. (Economy price) & Sat. 3.0.
EVITA
by Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber. Dir. by Harold Prince.

PICCADILLY S 437 4506 cc 379 6565. Group Bkgs 836 3962/379 6061. Mon.-Fri. 8. Mat. Wed. 3. Sat. 5 & 8.40. Stalls from £2.90.
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE CO.
in Willy Russell's new comedy
EDUCATING RITA
COMEDY OF THE YEAR SWET AWARD 1980
JULIE WALTERS MOST PROMISING ACTRESS DRAMA CRITICS' AWARD 1980
"SPLENDID THEATRE EVENING QUITE ASTOUNDING"—Time Out.
"A MARVELLOUS PLAY, HILARIOUS. IT SENT ME OUT MOVED, EXCITED & EXHILARATED" S. Tms.
RSC also at Aldwych/Warehouse.

PRINCE OF WALES THEATRE 930 8681. Credit Card bookings 930 0846.
PAUL DANIELS in
IT'S MAGIC
"TRIUMPH" Fin. Times. "A WINNER" Variety. "PURE MAGIC" Sun. Mirror. Mon.-Thurs. 8.0 Fri. & Sat. 6 & 8.45. Easter perfs.: Good Friday as normal. EXTRA MATS 20th & 21st APRIL AT 3.0.

QUEENS S cc 01-734 1166 01-439 3849 01-439 4031.
PENELOPE KEITH
Peter JEFFREY Barbara FERRIS
MOVING
A new play by Stanley Price. Directed by Robert Chetwyn. Evenings 8.0. Mat. Wed. 3.0. Sat. 5.0 & 8.15. Grp sales 379 6061 "STRAIGHT FROM THE HEART . . . A FUNNY AND MOVING STORY OF SELLING A HOUSE" Daily Mail.

RAYMOND REVUEBAR cc 734 1593. At 7, 9, 11 p.m. Open Suns. Paul Raymond presents THE FESTIVAL OF EROTICA. New Acts! New Girls! New Thrills! 23rd sensational year! Fully air conditioned.

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS: 748 3354. Tues. to Sun. 7.30. JOINT STOCK in Say Your Prayers. New musical play by Nick Darke. "Admirable story telling . . . intelligent comedy" Times.

ROUND HOUSE. 267 2564. Scarborough Theatre in the Round, in SUBURBAN STRAINS, a musical play by ALAN AYCKBOURN composed by PAUL TODD. Evgs. 8. Mats. Thurs & Sats. 2.30. Until March 14. "A witty, ingenious Musical play" Gdn. "Mr Ayckbourn at his familiar best" The Times.

ROUND HOUSE 267 2564
ROYAL EXCHANGE THEATRE COMPANY
THE DUCHESS OF MALFI with HELEN MIRREN & BOB HOSKINS
1 April-9 May
HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO DECLARE?
13 May-6 June
THE MISANTHROPE with TOM COURTENAY
1 July-1 August
Season Tkt. Available.

ROYAL COURT S cc 730 1745.
TOUCHED
By Stephen Lowe. Evgs. 8. Mon. all seats £2. "Beautifully written piece . . . the performances are superb". Gdn.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE UPSTAIRS 730 2554. FOUR IN A MILLION devised & Dir. by Les Blair. Evgs. 7.30. "Very funny, exceptionally enjoyable" S. Tms.

SAVOY THEATRE 01-836 8888.
JOHN ALDERTON PAULINE COLLINS
"PLAY OFF EACH OTHER BEAUTIFULLY TOUCHING, FUNNY AND VERY MUCH ALIVE." Gdn.
in Charles Dyer's comedy
RATTLE OF A SIMPLE MAN
"COULD HAVE BEEN SCRIPTED FOR THEM." Times. "A THEATRICAL GEM." The People. Mon-Fri 8.0. Sat 5.45 & 8.45. Reduced Group Bookings 839 3092. Credit Card bookings. Only 839 7516 (9.30 a.m.-6.00 p.m. Sats 9.30 a.m.-4.30 p.m.). Last 3 weeks.

SHAW 01-388 1394
SHORT SEASON ONLY!
GOTCHA AND KILLING TIME
by Barrie Keeffe
Mat. Thurs 2.30. Evgs. 7.30.

ST. MARTIN'S. cc 836 1443. Evgs. 8. Tue. 3.45. Sats 5 & 8.
AGATHA CHRISTIE'S
THE MOUSETRAP
29th YEAR

STRAND cc 01-836 2660, 01-836 4143. Evs. 8.0. Thurs. 3.0 Sats. 5.30 & 8.30.
NO SEX PLEASE WE'RE BRITISH
Directed by Allan Davis
Group sales box office 379 6061.

TRICYCLE THEATRE 260 Kilburn High Rd., NW6. 328 8626. Crucible Theatre's Production of BLACK BALL GAME by Don Webb. "It's brilliant" Gdn. "very funny satire" Tms. Mons-Sats, 8pm.

SHAFTESBURY. cc Shaftesbury Ave., W.C.2. Tel. Box Office 01-836 6596 or 01-836 4255. Credit Card booking only 01-839 7516 01-839 4682 01-839 4855 (9.30-6.00, Sats. 9.30-4.30) Group bookings only 01-839 3092.
TOM CONTI & GEMMA CRAVEN
THEY'RE PLAYING OUR SONG
"This show is a real stunner. Two of the most engaging performances in London." D. Mail. Prices: Stalls & Royal Circle £8.00, £6.50, £5.00. Circle £3.50 (£1.00 seats at Box Office) (OAP's £4.00 Wed. Mats. best seats. Student Standby £4.00). Mon.-Fri. Evgs. 8.0. Mats. Wed. 3.0. Sats. 5.0 & 8.30.

VICTORIA PALACE cc 01-828 4735/6. 01-834 1317. Evgs. 7.30. Wednesday & Saturday 2.45. Group Sales 01-379 6061.
ANNIE
"UNBEATABLE FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT" Observer.

VAUDEVILLE S CC 01-836 9988. Twice daily 2.45 & 7.45 Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber's SMASH HIT MUSICAL
JOSEPH
AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT
GRP SALES 379 6061.
"A DREAM OF A SHOW" D Ex "SIMPLY WONDERFUL" BBC
EXTRA MATS DAILY AT 2.45.

VAUDEVILLE S cc 836 9988
OPENING MARCH 17 AT 7.0
DONALD SINDEN in
PRESENT LAUGHTER
by NOEL COWARD
"TERRIFIC" S Times.
Red price prevs from March 11

WAREHOUSE Donmar Theatre, Earlham Street, Covent Garden. Box Office 836 6808. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY. Ton't 7.30 TELEVISION TIMES by Peter Prince. "Funny and constantly diverting . . . carried through with splendid attack" T.L.S. All seats £3.50, Students £2.00 in advance from Aldwych Box Office.

WESTMINSTER S CC 01-834 0283 From March 3 Matinees only. Monday-Friday 2.15. Sats 3.0
THE NAMESAKE

WINDMILL THEATRE, cc 01-437 6312. Continuous perfs nightly from 6.30 including Sundays. PAUL RAYMOND presents RIP OFF. Hotter than ever for 1981. The erotic experience of the modern era. 5th Great Year.

WYNDHAM'S. S 836 3028. cc 379 6565. Red. price. Gps 836 3962. Mon-Fri 8.00. Sat 6 & 8.40.
ACCIDENTAL DEATH OF AN ANARCHIST
"Exactly the shot in the arm that the West End needed" S Times. "One of the funniest shows London has seen in a very long time." Punch. "Hilarious" D Tel.

YOUNG VIC 928 6363. Eves 7.30. Ton't ROSENCRANTZ. Fri. Sat PYGMALION. Now bkg RICHARD II.

TALK OF THE TOWN. 01-734 5051 Air conditioning. Credit cards.
LONDON'S GREAT NIGHT OUT
From 8.00. Dining & Dancing
9.30 SUPER REVUE
"BUBBLY".
at 11: GRACE KENNEDY
DANCING TILL 1 a.m.
From Feb 16: BRUCE FORSYTH

CINEMAS

ACADEMY 1. 437 2981. 5th month. Joseph Losey's film of Mozart's DON GIOVANNI (A) perfs. 1.00 (not Sun), 4.10, 7.40.

ACADEMY 2. 437 5129. Andrei Tarkovsky's haunting new film STALKER (A). Progs. 1.50 (not Sun.), 4.50, 8.00.

ACADEMY 3. 437 8819. Cocteau's ORPHEE (A) and Renoir's PARTIE DE CAMPAGNE (A) Progs 5.45, 8.15. Sats/Suns also 3.15.

CAMDEN PLAZA, Camden Town 485 2443 (opp Tube) ISABELLE HUPPERT in Maurice Pialat's LOULOU (X) 2.35, 4.40, 6.45, 9.00.

CLASSIC 1 CHELSEA, King's Road. 352 5096 Isabelle Huppert in Pialat's LOULOU (X) progs 2.30; 6.30, 8.30. Last perf bookable.

COLUMBIA, Shaftesbury Ave (734 5414). A John Cassavetes Film GLORIA (AA). Cont. progs. Dly 1.30 (not Sun) 3.45, 6.00, 8.20. Late Show Fri. & Sat. 11.00 pm.

CURZON, Curzon St., W.1. 499 3737 BURT LANCASTER, SUSAN SARANDON in LOUIS MALLE'S ATLANTIC CITY (AA). Film at 2.0 (not Sun), 4.05, 6.20, 8.40.

DOMINION, Tott. Court Rd. (580 9562). PROM NIGHT (X) and LOVE AT FIRST BITE (AA). Cont. Progs. Wks. 1.30, 3.20, 7.00. Sun. 4.15, 6.10.

EMPIRE, Leicester Square. 437 1234. Seats bookable for last evening perfs. Mon.-Fri. and all perfs.: Sat. and Sun. (not late night shows) at the box office (11 a.m.-7 p.m. Mon.-Sat.) or by post. No telephone bookings. THE FORMULA (AA) Sep. progs. daily 12.30, 3.00, 5.45, 8.30. Now RITZ, Leicester Square. WATERSHIP DOWN (U) Sep. progs. daily 1.30, 3.45, 6.00, 8.30.

GATE CINEMA, Nott. Hill. 221 0220/727 5750. STARDUST MEMORIES (AA) 1.00, 2.55, 4.15, 6.00, 7.45, 9.30. LAST 7 DAYS. Starts Thursday MARTIN SCORSESE'S RAGING BULL. THE THIRD MAN (A) & LORD OF THE FLIES (AA) 11.15 p.m.

GATE TWO CINEMA. 837 8402/1177. Russ Sq. Tube. WUTHERING HEIGHTS (U) 1.00, 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE (X) & HELTER SKELTER (X) 11.00 P.M. LIC'D BAR.

GATE THREE CINEMA. 267 1201/485 2436. Camden Twn. Tb. MIZOGUCHI'S CLASSIC THE STORY OF THE LAST CHRYSANTHEMUMS (A) 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30. LIC'D BAR.

GATE MAYFAIR 493 2031 MAYFAIR HOTEL. Stratton St Green Pk. Tb. WUTHERING HEIGHTS (U). 5.30, 7.20, 9.15.

LEICESTER SQUARE THEATRE (930 5252). Jack Lemmon in TRIBUTE (AA). Sep. Progs. Dly. (inc. Sun). Drs. Open 2.10, 5.10, 8.10. Late show Sats. Drs. Open 11.15. Seats bookable w. ends. Last Eve. prog. and Late Show.

MINEMA 45 Knightsbridge 235 4225/6. Andrey Tarkovsky's "MIRROR" (U) (Russian dialogue—English subtitles). Daily: 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00. Late Nigh: Show Fri & Sat 11.00 pm.

ODEON HAYMARKET (930 2738/2771) ALIEN (X) IS BACK! in 70mm and Stereo sound. Sep. progs. Wks. 1.45, 4.50, 8.00. Sun. 4.30, 7.45. Late Night Show Fri. & Sat. 11.15.

ODEON LEICESTER SQUARE (930 6111) Jane Fonda, Lily Tomlin, Dolly Parton NINE TO FIVE (AA). Sep. Progs. Drs. Open Wks. 1.15, 4.20, 7.30. Sun. 3.00, 7.30. Late Night Show Fri & Sat. Drs. Open 11.15.

ODEON MARBLE ARCH, W2 (723 2011/2). THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK (U). Sep. Progs. Drs. Open Dly. 2.30, 6.45. Late Night Show Fri. ROLLER BALL (AA). Doors open 11 p.m.

ODEON ST. MARTIN'S LANE. THE NINTH CONFIGURATION (X). For info 240 0071 Box Office 836 0691. Sep. Progs. Dly. 1.35 (not Sun.) 4.45, 8.10. Late Night Show Fri. & Sat. 11.45.

PRINCE CHARLES.—Leic. Sq. 437 8181. British Premier Exclusive Presentation CALIGULA (X) Sep perfs Dly (inc Sun.) 2.15, 5.30, 8.45. Late show Fri & Sat 11.55 Seat bkble Lic'd bar

PLAZA 1, 2, 3, 4. Off Piccadilly Circus, 437 1234. Advance booking facilities same as Empire, Leicester Square.
**1. MORE AMERICAN GRAFFITI (AA). Sep. progs. daily 1.00, 3.30, 6.00, 8.30.
**2. AIRPLANE (A). Sep. progs. daily 1.00 (not Suns.), 3.00, 5.00, 7.00, 9.00.
*3. MONTY PYTHON'S LIFE OF BRIAN (AA). Sep. progs. daily 1.00 (not Suns.), 3.30, 6.00, 8.35.
*4. MY BODYGUARD (A). Sep. progs. daily. 1.00 (not Suns.), 3.30, 6.00, 8.30
**No smoking area.
*No smoking.

SCREEN ON THE HILL. 435 3366. Woody Allen. STARDUST MEMORIES (AA). 3.20, 5.15, 7.10, 9.15. Ring 435 9787 after 3 p.m. for phone-bookings.

EVENTS

WEMBLEY ARENA cc 01-902 1234
HOLIDAY ON ICE
WITH ROBIN COUSINS
Performances Daily except Mons. £2.20 to £5.20. Children half price. Car park. Season until Feb. 22.

EXHIBITIONS

BANKSIDE GALLERY, 48 Hopton St., Blackfriars, S.E.1. Royal Society of Painters-Etchers and Engravers. Contemporary Prints, until Feb. 12. Daily 10-5. Sunday 2-6. Adm. 50p. half-priced OAPs, Students. Last day.

ENAMELS TODAY. An international exhibition of modern enamel work. Goldsmith's Hall, Foster Lane, E.C.2. Mon.-Fri. 10.15-5.00 until 20 February. Admission free.

ART GALLERIES

AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St., W1. 629 6176. 108th ANNUAL WATERCOLOUR EXHIBITION. Until 20 Feb. Mon-Fri 9.30-5.30; Thurs until 7.

AGNEW GALLERY, 43 Old Bond St., W.1. 629 6176. Peter Brook—Yorkshire Landscapes until 27 Feb. Thurs. until 7 p.m.

ANTHONY d'OFFAY, 9 & 23 Dering St. W1 British Art 1900-1980, Carl Andre. 629 1578.

BRITISH LIBRARY (in Brit. Museum). George Eliot until 26 April. Tudor Map Making until 31 Dec. Wkdys. 10-5. Suns. 2.30-6 Adm. free.

BROWSE & DARBY, 19 Cork St., 734 7984. Keith Grant.

CRANE GALLERY, 171a Sloane St. (1st floor), SW1. 235 2464. Paintings, Furniture, Quilts, Decoys and AMERICANA. One of London's most beautiful Galleries Daily 10-6, Sats 10-4.

CRANE KALMAN GALLERY, 178 Brompton Road, SW3. 584 7566. FINE ENGLISH AND EUROPEAN PAINTINGS. (20th cent). Mon-Fri. 10-6, Sats. 10-4.

HAYWARD GALLERY (Arts Council), South Bank, London SE1. EDWARD HOPPER and WILLIAM JOHNSTONE. Till March 29. Mon-Thurs. 10-8. Fri and Sat. 10-6. Adm £1.50. All day Mon. 6-8 Tues-Thurs 75p.

LEFEVRE GALLERY: 30 Bruton St., W.1. 01-493 1572/3. Twentieth Century Works on View. Mon-Fri. 10-5.

LEGER GALLERY, 13 Old Bond St. THOMAS ROWLANDSON — 63 Original Watercolours. Mon-Fri, 9.30-5.30 until 27th Feb.

LUMLEY CAZALET, 24 Davies St, W1. 499 5058. Late 19th and 20th Century Original Prints.

MARLBOROUGH, 6 Albemarle St., W1. BILL BRANDT: NUDES (1945-1980). Mon-Fri 10-5.30. Sat 10-12.30.

REDFERN GALLERY ADRIAN HEATH, New Paintings 1978-80 January 28-February 25, 20 Cork Street London, W1. Mon-Fri. 10-5.30. Sats 10-12.30.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS
PICCADILLY, W.1.
1. A New Spirit in Painting until 18th March. Adm. £2. Concessionary Rate £1.40.
2. Honore Daumier 1808-1879 until 15th March. Adm. £1.50. Concessionary Rate £1.
3. Painting from nature until 15th March. Adm. £1. Concessionary Rate 50p.
All exhibitions open daily 10-6. Concessionary Rate applies — O.A.P.'s, students, groups over 10 and until 1.45 p.m. Suns.

TATE GALLERY.—Millbank, SW1. JASPER JOHNS WORKING PROOFS: Lithographs and Etchings. Until 22 March. Adm. 60p. Wkdys. 10-6. Suns. 2-6. Recorded information 01-821 7128.

THACKERAY GALLERY, 18 Thackeray St., Kensington Sq. W8. 937 5883. MONICA EPSTEIN—Tapestries, Watercolours and Etchings. Until Feb 27.

THE COTTAGE GALLERY, 9 Hereford Rd., W.2. 01-221 4578. Graphics, drawings, sculptures, by the American Artist Leonard Baskin. Opening 20th Feb. Tues.-Fri. 10-5. Sat. 11-3.

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM, S. Ken DRAWING: TECHNIQUE & PURPOSE. Until 26 April. Wkdys. 10-5.30. Suns. 2.30-5.30. Closed Fridays.

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"... The secret is this: Christ in you, the hope of a glory to come."—Colossians 1: 27 (N.E.B.)

BIRTHS

BOWE.—On February 10th, to Michael and Aileen—a daughter (Jennifer).

DAVIES.—On the 8th February, to Daphne (nee Dickson) and Gareth—a son (Nicholas).

DAVIS.—On February 5th to Jeannette (nee Kappes) and Michael—a son (Nicholas James).

FARRIER.—On 9th of February, at the Whittington Hospital, London, to Lavinia (nee Joyett) and Peter—a son, David Peter Andrew.

GOODEN.—On 10th February to Clare (nee Dimbleby) and Paul—a son (Peter Nicholas), brother for Thomas.

GROSSMITH.—On February 3rd, to Christopher and Kostadinka—a daughter (Annabel Katharine).

HIDDLESTON.—On February 9th to Diana (nee Servaes) and James, at the Middlesex Hospital—a son (Thomas William), a brother for Sarah.

HUTCHISON/HAWKINS.—On February 10th, at St. Mary's, Paddington, to Sarah and Alan—a son.

JARRETT-KERR.—On 10th February at Heavitree Hospital, Exeter, to Sarah (nee Kerr-Jarrett) and Nicolas—a son (Laurence Paul).

KEENAN.—On February 4th to Mary (nee Clarke) and Michael—a daughter (Lucy) a sister for Claire.

LANSLEY.—On 29th January, to John and Sue—a daughter, Clare Patricia.

LAW.—On 1st February at Walsgrave, Coventry, to Stefan and Lesley—a son (Henry), a brother for Sarah.

MACLEHOSE.—On February 9th to Jeremy and Sally (née Arbuthnott)—a son (Benjamin).

MELLISS.—On 31st January, 1981, to Jennifer (nee Webberley) and Simon, at West Kent General Hospital, Maidstone—a son, Oliver Simon.

PERCY.—On February 10th, at the Royal Free Hospital, to John and Catherine—a son (Nicholas) ...

DEATHS

TEMPLETOWN. — On 10th February, 1981, Henry 5th Viscount Templetown, aged 95, late of The Holme, Balmaclellan. Beloved husband of Daisy and father of Maureen. Cremation private. Memorial service in St. Margaret's Church, New Galloway, on Friday, 20th February, at 2.30 p.m.

VALLANCE.—On February 11th at home after a long illness, Agnes Margaret (Peggy), beloved wife of Roy and mother of Margaret. Funeral private.

WALLSGROVE.—On February 10th, 1981, Eric Richard, of 196 Northumberland Court, Kenilworth Road, Leamington Spa, peacefully at his home. Private cremation. No flowers by request, but donations if desired, may be sent to The British Heart Foundation, c/o 53 Park Row, Nottingham, NG1 6GR.

WILKS, GUY FRANCHOT.—In a tragic motor accident in Saudi Arabia on February 2. Will be sadly missed by his wife Judy and their three sons. Funeral is expected to be Monday, February 16th, 3 p.m., at St. John the Baptist Church, Stanbridge, Beds. Flowers to S. A. Bates & Sons, 115 West St., Dunstable. Telephone Dunstable 63653.

WOOD, MARY HEATLEY.—On February 8th, suddenly and peacefully at her home, 28 Castelnau Mansions, London, S.W.13, widow of Group Captain Norman Wood, O.B.E., loving mother of Hilary and Ruth and grandmother of Alan, John, Nicolas, and Susie. Funeral Friday, February 13th at 4.30 at Mortlake Crematorium. Flowers to Sanders, Barnes High Street, London, S.W.13.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

SONIA ORWELL. — A memorial meeting will be held at the Arts Club, 40 Dover Street, W1, on 10th February at noon.

IN MEMORIAM

LOOMBE, CLAUDE EVAN, C.M.G.—My beloved husband, remembered always—Zoë.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

... ruary 11th, sadly missed by all his family and friends. 164 Elmstead Avenue, Wembley, Middlesex.

MORTON.—On February 10th, 1981, at The Croft, Rickmansworth Rd, Northwood, Middlesex, Cecil William, Brigadier, M.C. retd. Beloved husband of Violet, father of Dick and Tony, and brother of Kitty and loving grandfather of Dominic and Serena. Funeral private.

OPPENHEIM.—On 10th February, 1981, Lucie Oppenheim at Stevenson, Haddington. Cremation private.

ROBINSON.—On February 10th, peacefully in her sleep at Holly Croft, Horam, Vera, adored wife for 51 years of Clive. Funeral service at 13.30 on Wednesday, February 18th at All Saints Church, Old Heathfield, followed by private cremation.

STAPLETON, FRANCES MARY (Mollie).—On February 10th, beloved mother of Mary Gibson, Catherine Reakes-Williams and Henry Stapleton of Hutton Buscel, aged 93.

TARRAN.—On 10th February, 1981, peacefully in hospital, Frank Tarran of Woodford Green, Essex, aged 82 years.

TRAPNELL.—On 10th February, 1981, Eliot, aged 84 years, suddenly in Clifton, Bristol, husband of Ruth and much loved father of John and grandfather of Ruth, Jennifer, Anne and Susan. Service at Redland Park United Reformed Church, on Wednesday, 18th February, at 12 noon. No flowers please, but donations for Broad Plane Lads Club, to Thomas Pakeman & Son, 3 White Ladies Gate, Clifton, Bristol.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAUDE, Men are romantic too. Penhaligon's say they'll send a floral bouquet with an After Shave too. Hopefully, Justin.

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JAPANESE speaking person required by an international company dealing in fine art packing.—See Recruitment Opportunities today.

CAPITAL invested?—See Burnell in Services.

SLOANE SQUARE.—Adaptable Secretary for hotel/property group.—See Creme.

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PERSONAL COLUMNS

ALSO ON PAGE 26

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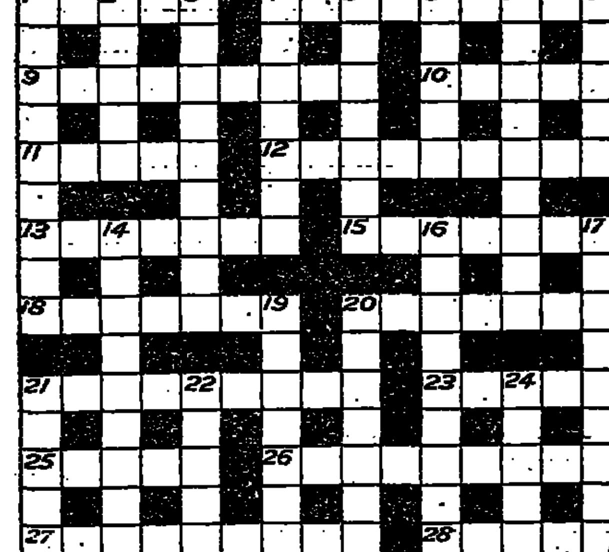
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ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,448



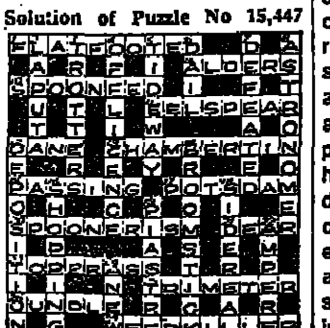
ACROSS

1 Edible fungus—many more ahead (5).
4 Bird to gain support from Lawrence initially in this (9).
9 "He has —— the shadow of our night" (Shelley) (3-6).
10 Claw moulding (5).
11 Violet's source of cheese (5).
12 Small financial reward said to be outweighed by ill-treatment (9).
13 Hint of faulty link in opening of gate (7).
15 Its cars marshalled by a church official (7).
18 Saffron Walden author lacks colour (7).
20 Do they demonstrate bathroom equipment? (7).
21 But this eagle didn't save Prometheus! (9).
23 Salt down more than one in Surrey (5).
25 Less than one the Franco-German Association offers (5).
26 A tall nude trips from the carriage (9).
27 Hence the engineers' warning (9).
28 Admittedly it's a key item (5).

DOWN

1 Motion, Top Secret, debatable (4, 5).
2 It twists or turns to the right (5).
3 Wake up! See—overcharged! (4, 5).
4 Brute as faithfully portrayed as Cromwell? (4-3).
5 The French support no divine heads (7).
6 Call to ram, to become more dangerous (3, 2).
7 Corrupted even Latin saint (9).
8 War in Serbia partly a wash-out (5).
14 It wasn't what Jowett was ignorant of! (9).
16 Narrow escape may end visit (5, 4).
17 Contest trial marriage? (4, 5).
19 Artist's outburst about stream (7).
20 Well-noted gin (7).
21 Question for the party, but resolved finally (5).
22 Rod's the limit! (5).
24 Dichotomy in Yugoslavia (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,447



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